

JOURNAL  
OF THE  
TWELFTH GENERAL CONFERENCE  
OF THE  
METHODIST (PROTESTANT) CHURCH,  
HELD AT  
PRINCETON, MAY 19-31, 1875.

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PITTSBURGH:  
METHODIST BOARD OF PUBLICATION,  
JAS. ROBISON, AGENT.  
1875.

# STATISTICS OF THE METHODIST CHURCH.

ANNUAL CONFERENCES.	Itinerant Ministers and Preachers....	Unstationed Minist'rs and Preachers....	Members....	Probationers	Churches....	Parsonages..	Value of Church Property....
Boston and Maine.....	10	..	500	...	4	1	\$ 5,000
New York.....	45	18	1896	243	35	5	178,000
New Jersey.....	16	13	1491	186	27	6	76,425
Onondaga.....	39	19	2063	98	21 $\frac{1}{3}$	10	55,750
Genesee.....	22	..	854	51	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	36,800
Pennsylvania.....	13	..	584	22	8	2	12,500
Pittsburgh.....	57	31	6486	222	78	15	535,850
North Carolina.....	50	..	1731	116	13	..	1,600
Tennessee and N. Georgia..	4	5	344	...	3	..	600
Kentucky.....	11	..	435	...	1	..	500
Muskingum.....	59	44	7212	234	135	14	173,300
Ohio.....	50	42	5535	100	85	22	177,725
Michigan.....	48	48	2089	143	14	11	41,125
West Michigan.....	45	25	2000	85	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	9	19,800
Indiana.....	20	20	2500	160	33	3	41,000
North Indiana.....	20	14	1700	40	20	3	21,000
North Illinois.....	45	25	3000	..	41	16	128,800
South Illinois.....	30	27	2379	96	10	7	12,500
Iowa.....	47	35	3042	...	12	10	28,000
North Iowa.....	14	15	984	...	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	18,750
Wisconsin.....	5	..	200	...	4	1	6,000
Minnesota.....	11	3	400	...	2	..	3,300
Nebraska.....	11	5	400	...	8	..	15,000
Missouri.....	43	20	2100	...	5	..	5,000
North Missouri.....	26	15	1300	...	6	..	5,100
Kansas.....	15	3	425	...	2	..	2,500
Oregon.....	5	5	250	...	2	..	7,000
California.....	5	..	100	...	1	..	500
	766	432	52000	1796	596 $\frac{1}{2}$	143	\$1,609,425

The Committee has diligently endeavored to obtain the data from all the Districts, for making a complete Statistical Table. But some of the Representatives in attendance are not furnished with the desired information to supply us. Other portions of the work not represented have failed to forward communications embracing their statistics. The committee has therefore been necessitated, in some instances, to give estimated statements, from such sources of information as could be reached. It is hoped that some measure will be adopted for securing, hereafter, accurate and full returns of statistics by each Annual Conference.

A. H. BASSETT, *Chairman.*



PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
TWELFTH GENERAL CONFERENCE,  
OF THE  
METHODIST (PROTESTANT) CHURCH.

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PRINCETON, ILL., MAY 19th, 1875.

Pursuant to disciplinary provision, the Ministerial and Lay Representatives elect assembled at the First Methodist church, Princeton, Illinois, on Wednesday morning, May 19, 1875, for the transaction of the business of the General Conference.

Hon. J. R. Mulvane, one of the secretaries of the last General Conference, called the members in attendance to order, and invited Rev. John Cowl, of the Pittsburgh Conference, to conduct the opening religious exercises; after which, A. H. Bassett, of the Ohio Conference, was elected President, *pro tem.*, and G. B. McElroy, of the Michigan Conference, was elected Secretary, *pro tem.*, and S. M. Lowden, of the Indiana Conference, Assistant Secretary, *pro tem.*

A Committee on Credentials was ordered, consisting of three members. The Chair appointed R. Burns, H. Stackhouse and G. W. Kent said committee.

The following list of the members of the Conference was made out, and they were duly enrolled.

# BOARDS.

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## BOARD OF PUBLICATION, PITTSBURGH, PA.

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*Time Expires 1879.*

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J. J. GILLESPIE,	F. H. PIERPONT,	J. B. WALKER.

*Time Expires 1883.*

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J. M. FLOOD,	C. SPRINGER,	F. STRINGER,
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## MICHIGAN CONFERENCE.

*Ministers.*

G. B. McElroy,  
J. Warner.

*Laymen.*

D. F. Osborne,  
A. Babcock.

## WEST MICHIGAN CONFERENCE.

J. Kost,  
W. Bakewell.

J. Sanders,  
C. S. Underwood.

## INDIANA CONFERENCE.

S. M. Lowden,  
S. H. Flood,  
H. Stackhouse.

D. V. Buskirk,\*  
N. H. Jones,  
O. P. Wellman.

## NORTH INDIANA CONFERENCE.

T. E. Lancaster,  
J. H. Luse.

J. Wright,  
C. W. Gift.\*

## NORTH ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

P. J. Strong,  
R. Burns.

P. F. Remsburg,  
W. P. Lewis.

## SOUTH ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

D. B. Turney,  
S. M. Gentry.

G. Stout,  
T. Keen.\*

## IOWA CONFERENCE.

W. Huddleston,  
W. Remsburg,  
E. S. Brown.

F. W. Johnson,  
J. W. Murphy,  
D. Patterson.\*

## NORTH IOWA CONFERENCE.

J. Selby.

O. M. Culver.

## MINNESOTA CONFERENCE.

S. Jones.

W. Waldron.

## NEBRASKA CONFERENCE.

W. S. Horn.

R. Pearson.

## KANSAS CONFERENCE.

R. Baker.

T. N. Newton.

## NEW YORK CONFERENCE.

*Ministers.*

J. J. Smith,  
S. Homan,  
J. H. Robinson.

*Laymen.*

C. Tomkins,\*  
J. Savage,  
A. H. Holgate.\*

## NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE.

F. Stringer,  
L. D. Stults.\*

J. F. Asay,  
J. D. Stults.

## ONONDAGA CONFERENCE.

H. L. Bowen,  
M. Prindle.

P. Weaver,  
C. D. Graham.

## GENESEE CONFERENCE.

E. A. Wheat.

H. Justice.

## PITTSBURGH CONFERENCE.

J. Scott,  
G. G. Westfall,  
J. L. Simpson,  
T. H. Colhouer,  
H. Palmer,  
J. Cowl,  
A. Clark.

J. J. Gillespie,  
F. H. Pierpont,\*  
T. F. Scott,  
H. T. Reeves,  
G. W. Pogue,  
W. Tate, Jr.,  
W. E. Miller.

## MUSKINGUM CONFERENCE.

J. Burns,  
G. W. Hissey,  
J. M. Woodward,  
D. Trueman,  
J. C. Ogle,\*  
W. L. Baldwin,  
F. A. Brown,  
W. Hastings,  
C. Springer.

L. Browning,  
R. H. Halstead,  
J. H. Carr.  
H. E. H. Hartsock,\*  
J. Keller,\*  
G. Porter,\*  
S. Moore,  
T. Chambers,  
J. B. Hamilton.\*

## OHIO CONFERENCE.

J. M. Flood,  
A. H. Bassett,  
R. Rose,  
T. B. Graham,  
W. R. Parsons,  
C. S. Evans.

T. Douglas,  
T. J. Finch,  
J. M. Johnson,  
G. B. Hamilton,\*  
N. M. McConkey,  
G. W. Kent.



see proper to bring before the Conference. The paper was adopted, but afterwards reconsidered, and so amended as to make the selecting committee consist of one representative from each Conference, each delegation to appoint its man.

J. M. Mayall, W. H. Jordan, A. H. Widney, J. R. Mulvane, Jacob Ross and the President of the Conference were appointed a committee on religious services.

Adjourned, with prayer by M. Prindle.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

MAY 19th, 1875.

Opening religious exercises conducted by S. H. Flood.

N. R. Swift, College Agent, J. Robison, Publishing Agent, C. H. Williams and J. B. Walker, Corresponding Secretaries of their respective Boards, and visiting ministers in attendance, were invited to occupy seats within the bar.

The several delegations from the different Conferences having conferred together, now announced each its nomination, and the committee of one from each Conference to appoint the standing committees, was constituted as follows:

Onondaga, Weaver; Genesee, Justice; N. Jersey, Stringer; East North Carolina, S. A. Cecil; Pittsburgh, Cowl; Muskingum, Hissey; Ohio, Graham; Michigan, Warner; West Michigan, Bakewell; Indiana, Flood; North Indiana, Luse; North Illinois, Burns; South Illinois, Stout; Iowa, Remsburg; North Iowa, Selby; Nebraska, Horn; Kansas, Baker; Missouri, Bush; North Missouri, Giffin; New York, Smith; West North Carolina, Kerr; Minnesota, Waldron;

The Committee on Rules of Order presented as a report the Rules of the last General Conference.

The report was amended and adopted. [See Appendix B.]

Conference proceeded to the election of permanent officers by ballot. The secretaries were appointed tellers of the election. J. Burns, of Muskingum, was declared duly elected President, and G. B. McElroy, of Michigan, and A. H. Bassett, of Ohio, were in like manner elected Secretaries. Subsequently, C. S. Evans, of Ohio, was elected an additional Secretary.

Adjourned. Prayer by R. Rose.

## MISSOURI CONFERENCE.

*Ministers.**Laymen.*

J. Jones.\*

J. W. Bush.

## NORTH MISSOURI CONFERENCE.

L. C. Pace.

H. Giffin.

## KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.

J. Locey.\*

E. L. Woody.\*

## EAST NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.

S. A. Cecil.

J. B. Cecil.

## WEST NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.

W. M. Kerr.

J. W. Davis.\*

## OREGON AND WASHINGTON CONFERENCE.

B. N. Longsworth.

W. F. West.\*

## TENNESSEE AND NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.

No representation.

Those marked thus \* were not in attendance.

The hours of meeting were fixed at 8:30 A. M. and 2 P. M. The first half hour of each morning session to be devoted to religious services. The hours of adjournment were fixed at 11:30 A. M. and 5 P. M.

H. Stackhouse and J. Burns were appointed a committee to report Rules of Order for the government of the Conference.

A. H. Widney was appointed official reporter for the Conference, he having engaged to issue the *Daily Recorder* during the session.

H. Stackhouse introduced a paper providing for the election of standing committees, said committees to be designated by a select committee of seven, to be appointed for this purpose. The standing committees to be authorized not only to consider such matters as may be referred, but to originate and incorporate in their reports such propositions as they may



4. *On Official Bodies*—Bakewell, Asay, Strong, Newton, Gentry.
5. *On Official Duties*—Lowden, Evans, Underwood.
6. *On Ritual and Forms*—Rose, Kerr, P. F. Remsburgh.
7. *On Course of Study*—Stackhouse, McElroy, Douglas.
8. *On Conference Districts*—Selby, F. A. Brown, Bowen, Osborne, F. W. Johnson.
9. *On Publishing Interests*—Cowl, R. Burns, Robinson, Finch, Turney, Halstead, C. D. Graham.
10. *On Literary Institutions*—Parsons, Warner, Wheat, Stults, Smith, J. M. Johnson.
11. *On Ministerial Education*—Scott, T. B. Graham, Stringer, Carr, Culver.
12. *On Missions*—J. M. Flood, Pace, N. H. Jones, Stout, Pogue.
13. *On Sunday Schools*—McConkey, Hissey, Tate, S. H. Flood, Babcock.
14. *On Moral Reforms*—Colhouer, S. Jones, Browning.
15. *On Fraternal Visitations*—Clark, Bassett, Trueman, J. Cecil, Justice.
16. *On Methodistic Union*—Lancaster, Westfall, Weaver, Horn, Moore, Lewis, Kost, Homan.
17. *On Annual Conference Journals and Statistics*—Simpson, E. S. Brown, Waldron.

A communication from the Faculty and Executive Committee of Adrian College was presented and read by President McElroy, and referred to Committee on Literary Institutions.

The resolution offered by brother Turney concerning the ordination of women was taken from the table and adopted. The committee announced by the Chair : Rose, Turney, Baldwin, T. F. Scott, Carr, N. H. Jones.

L. C. Pace introduced the following preamble and resolution, which were adopted :

*Whereas*, There are many points in the West, as well as in the East, where timely action and aid, financially, in the erection of houses for divine worship, would secure to our Church a permanent organization, and thus secure large interests, both spiritually and financially; and

*Whereas*, Other denominations are gathering large sums of money annually from the whole people, for the purpose of establishing churches, as above indicated, whilst our denomination is sadly in need of the help mentioned above; therefore,

## THURSDAY MORNING.

MAY 20th, 1875.

Conference was called to order by the President. Religious services conducted by L. C. Pace.

An order was passed for printing the Rules of Order.

Communications were introduced and read from L. W. Bates, D. D., Commissioner, and Rev. G. Nestor, Fraternal Messengers from the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church. Referred to appropriate committee, hereafter to be appointed.

A. H. Bassett, the temporary Chairman of yesterday, having deferred offering introductory remarks until the Conference should be permanently organized, now, by leave, read a sketch, embracing a historic outline, which was, on motion, ordered for publication with the Minutes. [See Appendix A.]

H. Stackhouse introduced a preamble and resolution, commendatory of Ministerial Associations, and ordering a special committee to consider and advise what can be done to promote their extended usefulness. Adopted. Chair appointed as said committee, Stackhouse, F. A. Brown, Chambers, Westfall, T. F. Scott.

A resolution was introduced by D. B. Turney, providing for the appointment of a committee of three ministers and three laymen, to consider the question of the ordination of women in our Church, as to its authorization in the Word of God and our Discipline. Laid on the table till 3 P. M.

Adjourned. Prayer by J. M. Flood.

## AFTERNOON SESSION.

MAY 20th, 1875.

Opening religious exercises conducted by D. B. Turney.

The report of committee appointed to nominate persons to constitute the standing committees came before Conference, was acted upon *seriatim*, and, after being somewhat amended, was adopted, as follows:

1. *Committee on Organic Provisions*—Woodward, Murphy, Palmer, Prindle, Bush.
2. *On Faith and Practice*—Baker, Kent, Huddleston.
3. *On Administrative Rules*—Luse, W. Remsburgh, Chambers.



One by D. B. Turney, asking changes in the Ritual. Referred to Committee on Ritual and Forms.

One by J. H. Robinson, relating to Annual Conference Districts. Referred to Committee on Conference Districts.

One by C. S. Evans, asking certain changes in the Discipline. Referred to Committee on Official Duties.

One by same, touching the practice of receiving members into church fellowship. Referred to Committee on Faith and Practice.

One by same, relating to worldly amusements. Referred to same committee.

One by J. W. Murphy, in relation to the duties of Secretary of Quarterly Conference. Referred to Committee on Official Duties.

One from North Illinois Conference, by P. J. Strong. Its several items referred to appropriate committees.

One by L. C. Pace, on Union of the Methodist and Methodist Protestant Churches. Referred to Committee on Methodist Union.

One from New Jersey Conference, by F. Stringer. Its several items were referred to appropriate committees.

One by J. Warner, in relation to Quarterly Conferences. Referred to Committee on Organic Provisions.

One by W. M. Kerr, on the relation of Ministers and Preachers to the Quarterly and Annual Conferences. Referred to Committee on Organic Provisions.

One by J. H. Robinson, concerning the Forms in Preachers' Manual. Referred to Committee on Ritual and Forms.

One by J. J. Smith, on several matters of Discipline. Referred to appropriate committees.

One by E. S. Brown, in relation to the stationing authority of the Annual Conference. Referred to Committee on Organic Provisions.

One by W. L. Baldwin, in relation to the organization of Quarterly Conferences. Referred to Committee on Organic Provisions.

A communication from Rev. A. C. Harris, a Fraternal Messenger, appointed by the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, was read, and referred to Committees on Methodist Union and on Fraternal Visitations.

A preamble and resolution were introduced by J. J. Smith, and adopted, constituting the several General Agents of the Church, Editor, Publishing Agent, Corresponding Secretaries

*Resolved*, That the Chair appoint a committee of five, who shall report at the earliest practicable moment, a plan for the organization of a Board, to be known as the Church Extension Society of the Methodist Church.

Committee appointed by Chair : Pace, J. M. Johnson, Lowden, Trueman, Babcock.

On motion, a committee was ordered regarding a Catechism for the youth of our Church. Chair appointed Clark, J. Scott, Robinson, Reeves, Halstead.

A motion was made to request the editor of the *Daily Recorder*, (A. H. Widney,) to drop the parenthesis, "(formerly Methodist Protestant,)" from notices of the transactions of the Conference. On motion the whole matter was referred to a committee of three. Chair appointed Simpson, Finch, Parsons.

Ajourned. Prayer by T. B. Graham.

#### FRIDAY MORNING.

MAY 21st, 1875.

Opening religious services conducted by J. M. Woodward.

Papers were severally offered, and referred to appropriate committees, as follows :

One by W. Remsburgh, touching certain changes in the Discipline. Referred to Committee on Official Duties.

One by A. H. Bassett, relating to the change of our denominational name, and advising an early restoration of former name. Referred to Committee on Methodistic Union.

One by C. S. Evans, asking amendments to the Discipline, in view of securing more correct statistics. Referred to Committee on Official Duties.

One by H. Stackhouse, on church meetings. Referred to Committee on Official Bodies.

One by same, in relation to judicial investigations. Referred to Committee on Administrative Rules.

One by C. S. Evans, relating to the financial plan of the Church. Referred to Committee on Official Duties.

One from Nebraska Conference, by W. S. Horn. Referred to Committee on Organic Provisions.

One by T. H. Colhouer, relative to Missions. Referred to Committee on Missions.

One by R. H. Halstead, proposing certain additions to the Discipline. Referred to Committee on Official Duties.



Committee appointed by Chair: J. M. Flood, Bassett, T. B. Graham, Murphy, Bush.

Communications were received and referred to appropriate committees, as follows:

One from members of Kansas Conference. Referred to Committee on Administrative Rules.

One from Indiana Conference, by S. M. Lowden. Referred to Committee on Organic Provisions.

One from South Illinois Conference, by S. M. Gentry, Referred by items, severally, to appropriate committees.

One from the President of Nebraska Conference. Referred to Committee on Missions.

J. L. Simpson, of committee appointed in reference to the parenthesis, "(formerly Methodist Protestant,)" as sometimes used, presented report, which, after some consideration, was recommitted.

Adjourned. Prayer by E. A. Wheat.

#### SATURDAY MORNING.

MAY 22d, 1875.

Opening religious services conducted by T. B. Graham.

Two hundred copies of printed Rules of Order, in pamphlet, having been procured, a collection was taken up to pay for them, \$11.01.

A paper from North Indiana Conference was presented by J. H. Luse, and referred, by items, to appropriate committees.

J. J. Gillespie, President of the Board of Publication, presented the Quadrennial Report of the Board, which was read.

J. Robison, Publishing Agent, presented and read his Quadrennial Report. These reports, together with the report of A. H. Bassett, former agent, and a resolution by the existing Board, were referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

Adjourned. Prayer by T. F. Scott.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

MAY 22d, 1875.

Opening religious services conducted by Rev. M. Milligan, of the Presbyterian Church.

Committee on Sunday Schools presented report, which was laid on the table.

of the Board of Missions and of Ministerial Education, when not representatives, to be ex-officio honorary members of this body, for the purpose of making their reports and addresses upon the subjects of their special duties, severally. It was understood that the College Agent was included in this provision.

Adjourned. Prayer by Rev. Blakely, of the M. E. Church.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

MAY 21st, 1875.

Opening religious services conducted by T. E. Lancaster.

Papers were presented and referred to appropriate committees, as follows:

One by S. M. Lowden, proposing certain changes in the Discipline. Referred to Committee on Official Bodies.

One by D. Trueman, in reference to the use of unfermented wine in the Lord's Supper. Referred to Committee on Moral Reforms.

One by J. Scott, relative to the Articles of Religion. Referred to the Committee on Faith and Practice.

One by H. L. Bowen, proposing certain changes in the Discipline. Referred to Committee on Organic Provisions.

One by same, touching the union of the Methodist and Methodist Protestant Churches. Referred to Committee on Methodistic Union.

One by same, in reference to ministers making contracts with fields of labor. Referred to Committee on Organic Provisions.

One by H. Stackhouse, on certain changes in the Discipline. Referred to Committee on Organic Provisions.

One by S. M. Lowden, in reference to a General Conference Judicial Committee. Referred to Committee on Organic Provisions.

One by same, from Indiana Conference, touching the union of the Methodist and Methodist Protestant Churches. Referred to Committee on Methodistic Union.

N. R. Swift, General Agent of Adrian College, read his report, which was referred to Committee on Literary Institutions.

A committee of five was ordered for the purpose of ascertaining what powers have been conferred by the several Annual Conferences upon their representatives to this body.



Committee on Parenthesis in Denominational Title again presented report. Laid on the table.

A communication from the Alumni Association of Adrian College was presented by Pres't. McElroy, and referred to Committee on Literary Institutions.

L. C. Pace presented a paper, which was referred to the Committee on Sunday Schools.

One presented by S. M. Lowden, in relation to the use of tobacco, was referred to the Committee on Moral Reforms.

One presented by T. B. Graham, on certain changes in the Discipline, was referred to the Committee on Organic Provisions.

Adjourned. Prayer by G. W. Hissey.

#### MONDAY MORNING.

MAY 24th, 1875.

Opening religious services conducted by J. M. Flood.

A communication from the National Council of Congregational Churches was read, and referred to the Committee on Fraternal Visitations.

The Committee on Publishing Interests was authorized to submit nominations for the Board of Publication.

J. Kost presented a paper on Ministerial Education, which was referred to the committee on that subject.

Pres't. McElroy offered a resolution relative to Adrian, Mich., as a mission field, which was referred to Committee on Missions.

J. Scott read a paper contemplating a change in the manner of electing Boards and their Agents. Referred to a special committee of three. Chair appointed J. Scott, S. H. Flood, W. E. Miller.

T. B. Graham having been, by dispatch, providentially called home, was excused from further attendance on the sessions. J. B. Walker, alternate, was admitted to a seat in place of Graham. C. S. Evans was named to fill the vacancy in Committee on Ministerial Education, in place of Graham.

H. Stackhouse introduced a paper from Indiana Conference, which was, by items, referred to appropriate committees.

C. S. Evans presented a paper relating to the tenure of church property, which was referred to Committee on Official Duties.

Committee on Methodistic Union presented report. Laid on the table.

J. Scott introduced the following preamble and resolutions, which were adopted:

*Whereas*, The last General Conference did, by resolution, request the late Rev. Geo. Brown to prepare a volume of his sermons for publication;

*And whereas*, In compliance with that resolution, he began the preparation of such a volume, but was not spared to complete it; therefore,

*Resolved*, That this Conference appoint a suitable person to collect what sermons Dr. Brown had prepared, with other valuable papers of his, and prepare the same for publication, in connection with the leading facts of his life—particularly of his later years.

*Resolved*, That when the volume is prepared, it shall be the duty of the Board of Publication to publish it, at the earliest practicable day, assuming all the pecuniary responsibility of its publication.

As ordered by Conference, under the resolutions, the Chair appointed T. J. Finch, J. Scott and J. M. Woodward as a committee to nominate a suitable editor of the papers and biography of Dr. Brown.

This committee, in a little time, nominated Dr. J. Scott for the purpose, and the same was approved by the Conference.

E. A. Wheat proposed certain queries, which were referred to Committee on Organic Provisions.

F. Stringer presented a paper concerning qualifications of candidates for Elders' Orders. Referred to Committee on Course of Study.

J. B. Walker, Corresponding Secretary of Board of Ministerial Education, presented and read his Quadrennial Report, which was referred to Committee on Ministerial Education.

C. H. Williams, Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Missions, presented and read his Quadrennial Report, which was referred to Committee on Missions.

J. J. Smith introduced the following, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the latter clause of Article XXI., under the head of Faith and Practice, Discipline, page 28, in the words following: "Every particular church may ordain, change or abolish rites and ceremonies, so that all things may be done to edification," be stricken out, as inconsistent with other parts of the Discipline.

Committee on Administrative Rules presented report. Laid on the table.



Another, by J. H. Robinson, in relation to ministers laboring within the bounds of a sister Conference, was referred to Committee on Official Duties.

Committee on Missions submitted report, which was acted upon *seriatim*, and adopted. [See Appendix C.]

Committee on Church Extension presented report, which was considered and adopted. [See Appendix D.]

The Committee of Church Extension was instructed to nominate the members of the Board of Church Extension, and the place of its location.

Rev. E. S. Janes, Senior Bishop of the M. E. Church, was introduced to the General Conference by the President, and assigned a seat on the platform.

Report of Committee on Fraternal Visitations was made the order of the day to-morrow, 10:30 A. M.

Report of Committee on Literary Institutions was made the order of the day for Wednesday, 3 P. M.

The roll of Conferences was called, to ascertain how many had clothed their representatives with conventional powers.

Adjourned. Prayer by Bishop Janes.

## TUESDAY MORNING.

MAY 25th, 1875.

Opening religious exercises conducted by G. G. Westfall.

Committee on Official Bodies presented report, which, after reading, was laid on the table.

J. Scott offered the following amendments to Discipline, under the head of Annual Conference, which were adopted. Amend item 25 by striking out the word "two" and inserting the word "three" instead. Strike out the word "may," and insert, instead, "he shall." After the words "unstationed list," insert, "Provided this provision shall not apply to Editors, Agents and Secretaries, who are engaged in the service of the General Conference, or any of its regular Boards, or to persons engaged as Teachers in our Colleges or Seminaries of learning, or to persons entitled to supernumerary relation to the Conferences."

The Committee on Fraternal Visitations presented and read a report. Pending a motion to adopt,

Bishop Janes addressed the Conference, in words of earnest Christian greeting and fraternal kindness, tracing the points

E. A. Wheat read a paper regarding Sunday School Literature, which was referred to Committee on Sunday Schools.

A. Babcock read a paper in relation to legal forms for use by the local churches. Referred to Committee on Church Extension.

J. J. Smith introduced a resolution, which was adopted, providing for an amendment of the Discipline, at page 47, paragraph 15, under Annual Conference. After the words, "reasons of his appeal," at end of first sentence, insert "when the Conference shall have decided that his appeal is valid, then all the documents belonging to the trial, had before the committee, shall be read, after which," &c.

A. Clark introduced a series of resolutions commendatory of the American Bible Society, and advising a cordial co-operation by all our ministers and churches with the said Society, its auxiliaries and agents, in promoting the good work in all our fields. Adopted.

A paper in reference to the approaching centenary of American independence, in its relation to Church interests, was read, and referred to a special committee of three. Chair appointed Wheat, Evans, Douglas.

Committee on Church Extension submitted a report, which was recommitted for perfection.

E. A. Wheat presented a paper proposing a General Conference Camp Meeting organization, which was referred to a special committee of three. Chair appointed Wheat, J. M. Flood, T. F. Scott.

Adjourned. Prayer by T. N. Newton.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

MAY 24th, 1875.

Opening religious services conducted by W. Huddleston.

J. Scott, of Committee on Changes in the Discipline as to the manner of electing Boards, Agents, &c., submitted report, proposing amendments in first and second paragraphs of Sec. VI., page 53, so as to require the elections to be made by ballot. Report adopted.

R. H. Halstead presented a paper relating to the boundary of Onondaga Conference. Referred to Committee on Conference Districts.

Another, by H. L. Bowen, on same subject, was referred to same committee.



Committee on Ordination of Women presented two reports, one from majority of the committee and one from minority. Reports placed on file.

Report of Committee on Administrative Rules was taken from the table, and placed on its passage.

One of its items, relating to baptism, was laid on the table, in view of its reference to a special committee.

The remainder of the report was amended and adopted. [See Appendix G.]

Committee on Official Duties presented a report, which was placed on file.

G. G. Westfall offered a paper on the relation of children to the Church. Referred to Committee on Administrative Rules.

S. M. Lowden offered a resolution touching the relation of baptism and regeneration, which was laid on the table.

A communication from E. L. Woody, Lay Representative of the Kentucky Conference, was read, and referred to Committee on Statistics.

Committee on Conference Districts presented a report, which was placed on file.

Adjourned. Prayer by Mrs. Springer.

### WEDNESDAY MORNING.

MAY 26th, 1875.

Opening religious exercises conducted by W. L. Baldwin.

Committee on Church Extension presented a supplemental report, which was placed on file.

Committee on Administrative Rules presented an additional report, which was placed on file.

Committee on Official Bodies presented an additional report, which was placed on file.

Committee on Publishing Interests presented a report, which was placed on file.

Committee on Ministerial Education presented a report, which was placed on file.

Committee on Methodistic Union re-presented report, in part, which was placed on file.

J. H. Luse presented a paper from Indiana Conference, which was referred to Committee on Conference Districts.

A communication from the President of Nebraska District was read, and referred to Committee on Missions.

of oneness in the various branches of the family of Methodists.

The President, in behalf of the Conference, responded to the Bishop's address, assuring him that the Methodist Church fully reciprocates his sentiments of Christian fellowship.

Alexander Clark, in like manner, gave expression to the hearty sympathy of the Conference and Church, in the tendencies of the day to a oneness of heart and intellect, and to a oneness of visible organization and Christian activity.

J. Scott also responded, calling attention to the many points of close contact between the two Churches, and the comparatively few points at which space exists between them; and the tendency to annihilate even these, or at least to bridge over them, is gathering strength.

The report on Fraternal Visitations was adopted. [See Appendix E.]

The report on Methodistic Union, at request of the committee, was taken from the table, and then recommitted.

N. H. Jones presented a paper relative to boundaries, which was referred to Committee on Annual Conference Districts.

J. B. Walker, Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Ministerial Education, presented the financial report of the Board, which was referred to the Committee on Ministerial Education.

Adjourned. Prayer by G. Williams.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

MAY 25th, 1875.

Opening religious services conducted by Rev. W. Collier.

Committee on Sunday Schools presented an additional report, which was placed on file.

Committee on Camp Meeting Organization presented a report, which was amended and adopted. [See Appendix F.]

T. F. Scott presented a paper on Centenary offerings, which was referred to Committee on Centenary.

Committee on Faith and Practice presented a report, which was placed on file.

Committee on Moral Reforms presented a report, which was placed on file.



Committee on Ordination of Women presented two reports, one from majority of the committee and one from minority. Reports placed on file.

Report of Committee on Administrative Rules was taken from the table, and placed on its passage.

One of its items, relating to baptism, was laid on the table, in view of its reference to a special committee.

The remainder of the report was amended and adopted. [See Appendix G.]

Committee on Official Duties presented a report, which was placed on file.

G. G. Westfall offered a paper on the relation of children to the Church. Referred to Committee on Administrative Rules.

S. M. Lowden offered a resolution touching the relation of baptism and regeneration, which was laid on the table.

A communication from E. L. Woody, Lay Representative of the Kentucky Conference, was read, and referred to Committee on Statistics.

Committee on Conference Districts presented a report, which was placed on file.

Adjourned. Prayer by Mrs. Springer.

### WEDNESDAY MORNING.

MAY 26th, 1875.

Opening religious exercises conducted by W. L. Baldwin.

Committee on Church Extension presented a supplemental report, which was placed on file.

Committee on Administrative Rules presented an additional report, which was placed on file.

Committee on Official Bodies presented an additional report, which was placed on file.

Committee on Publishing Interests presented a report, which was placed on file.

Committee on Ministerial Education presented a report, which was placed on file.

Committee on Methodistic Union re-presented report, in part, which was placed on file.

J. H. Luse presented a paper from Indiana Conference, which was referred to Committee on Conference Districts.

A communication from the President of Nebraska District was read, and referred to Committee on Missions.

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The President, in behalf of the Conference, responded to the Bishop's address, assuring him that the Methodist Church fully reciprocates his sentiments of Christian fellowship.

Alexander Clark, in like manner, gave expression to the hearty sympathy of the Conference and Church, in the tendencies of the day to a oneness of heart and intellect, and to a oneness of visible organization and Christian activity.

J. Scott also responded, calling attention to the many points of close contact between the two Churches, and the comparatively few points at which space exists between them; and the tendency to annihilate even these, or at least to bridge over them, is gathering strength.

The report on Fraternal Visitations was adopted. [See Appendix E.]

The report on Methodistic Union, at request of the committee, was taken from the table, and then recommitted.

N. H. Jones presented a paper relative to boundaries, which was referred to Committee on Annual Conference Districts.

J. B. Walker, Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Ministerial Education, presented the financial report of the Board, which was referred to the Committee on Ministerial Education.

Adjourned. Prayer by G. Williams.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

MAY 25th, 1875.

Opening religious services conducted by Rev. W. Collier.

Committee on Sunday Schools presented an additional report, which was placed on file.

Committee on Camp Meeting Organization presented a report, which was amended and adopted. [See Appendix F.]

T. F. Scott presented a paper on Centenary offerings, which was referred to Committee on Centenary.

Committee on Faith and Practice presented a report, which was placed on file.

Committee on Moral Reforms presented a report, which was placed on file.



The following named persons were then duly elected, by ballot, Trustees of Adrian College, to serve for eight years: J. H. Claney, T. J. Finch, J. M. Flood, O. H. Howard, R. Rose, W. S. Wilcox, J. Cowl, C. Springer, J. Fordyce, G. B. McElroy, J. M. Mayall, W. Owen, F. Stringer, R. Mount, E. A. Wheat.

Adjourned. Prayer by Rev. Springer, of M. E. Church.

#### THURSDAY MORNING.

MAY 27th, 1875.

Opening religious services conducted by R. Burns.

T. E. Lancaster was excused, by reason of personal illness, from further attendance.

Committee on Ritual and Forms presented a report, which was placed on file.

Committee on Conference Districts presented a report, which was placed on file.

Committee on Journals and Statistics made report, which was placed on file, except that part relating to statistics, which was recommitted for correction.

C. Springer was granted leave of absence at his pleasure. A brief voluntary recess was taken by the Conference in taking leave of this venerable father of the Church.

Report of the Board of Missions was presented, and read by the President of the Board, W. Collier. The report, together with the statement of its Treasurer, was referred to the Committee on Missions.

A telegram from Joseph Hillman, President of the Round Lake Camp Meeting Association, inviting the General Conference to attend the Fraternal Camp Meeting at Round Lake, July 1-14, was read, and Alexander Clark was appointed to return a suitable response.

Hon. C. W. Button, of Lynchburg, Va., a leading and honored member of the Methodist Protestant Church, who had come as Fraternal Messenger, with certificate from the President of its General Conference, now addressed the Conference in words of kind and tender greeting. He assured us of a rapidly growing sentiment in the Church he represented, in favor of organic union between the two bodies. He said that they are fondly cherishing the hope that, ere long, the divided stream may again become one.

C. S. Evans presented a communication from the Executive Committee of Adrian College Board, which was referred to Committee on Centenary.

Committee on Ministerial Associations and District Meetings presented a report, which was recommitted.

A. H. Bassett offered a resolution, which was adopted, to the effect that no paper or proposition calling for amendment to the Constitution or Discipline, shall be received or entertained by this General Conference after adjournment of forenoon session of Thursday, 27th inst.

Adjourned. Prayer by J. M. Johnson.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

MAY 26th, 1875.

Opening religious exercises by Rev. M. Glass, of M. E. Church.

J. Cowl offered for adoption the two following items, to be inserted in the Discipline. Agreed to.

At page 53, insert as item 15, "Each Annual Conference, at its session, prior to the assembling of the General Conference, shall order a collection to be made throughout its bounds, to defray the expenses of its Representatives to the General Conference."

At page 54, add, as item 6, "Whenever the General Conference shall appoint commissioners or messengers, fraternally or otherwise, to attend to any interest, it shall be the duty of the Conference to provide for the traveling expenses of such commissioners or messengers."

On motion of brother Finch, it was agreed that, hereafter, speeches be limited to five minutes, unless by leave to extend.

It was further agreed, hereafter, to hold night sessions.

G. B. McElroy presented a paper relating to Conference Seminaries, which was referred to Committee on Literary Institutions.

A communication from L. S. Bartlett, South Illinois, was, with all other papers pertaining to the case, referred to the Committee on Journals.

Committee on Literary Institutions presented report, which, after some verbal amendments, was adopted, excepting the item nominating Trustees for Adrian College. [See Appendix H.]



J. H. Robinson having proposed the division of the entire connection into districts, the matter was referred to a special committee—Robinson, Osborne, C. D. Graham.

H. L. Bowen offered a paper proposing amendments to the Discipline, which was referred to Committee on Official Bodies.

The report on Ministerial Education was taken from the file and put on its passage, *seriatim*. The report was amended and adopted. [See Appendix I.]

The report of Committee on Publishing Interests was taken from the file and acted upon. The report, excepting the items relating to auditing committee, and nominating members of the Board, Editor and Agent, was amended and adopted. [See Appendix J.]

A resolution was passed, giving a vote of thanks to the First Methodist Church, of Pittsburgh, for their liberal donation to the Board of Publication.

The election of Editor and Publishing Agent was made the order of the day to-morrow, 3 P. M.

Report of Committee on Methodistic Union was taken from the file and recommitted.

Adjourned. Prayer by Rev. Dr. Hunter, of the M. E. Church.

## FRIDAY MORNING.

MAY 28th, 1875.

Opening religious services conducted by S. H. Flood.

Committee on Administrative Rules presented further report, which was placed on file.

Committee on Ministerial Education presented further report, which was placed on file.

Committee on Methodistic Union presented report, which was placed on file.

Committee on Powers of the General Conference presented report, to the effect that they find that only eight of the whole number of the Annual Conferences have conferred upon their representatives full conventional powers; seven others have conferred limited conventional powers; but for want of uniformity, there is not a sufficient number to authorize this General Conference to make any constitutional changes.

G. Stout and J. Wright were granted leave of absence, on account of personal or family illness.

W. R. Parsons, by appointment, responded, reciprocating the kind and Christian greeting of the address. He represented the Methodist Church as in the full tide of progress towards reunion.

T. H. Colhouer, also, in response, called attention to the historic relation of our two Churches, and argued the propriety of an organic union between them.

J. Scott likewise made remarks, advocating the union of the Methodist and M. P. Churches, as a step initiatory to the final union of all branches of Methodism.

Adjourned. Prayer by C. W. Button.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

MAY 27th, 1875.

Opening religious services conducted by G. W. Hissey.

The vote of the Conference limiting the time for presentation of papers contemplating amendments, was reconsidered.

A paragraph, offered by J. J. Smith, for insertion in the Discipline, stating the office, position and duties of supernumerary ministers, was adopted.

W. M. Kerr presented a paper relating to unstationed ministers, which was referred to Committee on Organic Provisions.

C. R. Underwood offered a paper regarding the use of titles in the **METHODIST RECORDER**. Referred to Committee on Publishing Interests.

P. J. Strong offered a resolution to appoint a special committee, of one minister and two laymen, to take into consideration the subject of church property, and to suggest measures for the greater security of such property. Resolution adopted. Committee—R. Burns, P. F. Remsburgh, J. W. Bush.

Agreed that this evening's session be devoted to hearing Prof. Schindler on College Interests.

On motion of J. J. Smith, it was agreed to strike out certain portions of the Historical Preface; also, to insert other paragraphs instead.

The Committee on Ministerial Education was directed to nominate persons to constitute the Board of Ministerial Education.

The report of Committee on Administrative Rules was taken from the file and adopted, [See Appendix G.]



J. H. Robinson having proposed the division of the entire connection into districts, the matter was referred to a special committee—Robinson, Osborne, C. D. Graham.

H. L. Bowen offered a paper proposing amendments to the Discipline, which was referred to Committee on Official Bodies.

The report on Ministerial Education was taken from the file and put on its passage, *seriatim*. The report was amended and adopted. [See Appendix I.]

The report of Committee on Publishing Interests was taken from the file and acted upon. The report, excepting the items relating to auditing committee, and nominating members of the Board, Editor and Agent, was amended and adopted. [See Appendix J.]

A resolution was passed, giving a vote of thanks to the First Methodist Church, of Pittsburgh, for their liberal donation to the Board of Publication.

The election of Editor and Publishing Agent was made the order of the day to-morrow, 3 P. M.

Report of Committee on Methodistic Union was taken from the file and recommitted.

Adjourned. Prayer by Rev. Dr. Hunter, of the M. E. Church.

#### FRIDAY MORNING.

MAY 28th, 1875.

Opening religious services conducted by S. H. Flood.

Committee on Administrative Rules presented further report, which was placed on file.

Committee on Ministerial Education presented further report, which was placed on file.

Committee on Methodistic Union presented report, which was placed on file.

Committee on Powers of the General Conference presented report, to the effect that they find that only eight of the whole number of the Annual Conferences have conferred upon their representatives full conventional powers; seven others have conferred limited conventional powers; but for want of uniformity, there is not a sufficient number to authorize this General Conference to make any constitutional changes.

G. Stout and J. Wright were granted leave of absence, on account of personal or family illness.

W. R. Parsons, by appointment, responded, reciprocating the kind and Christian greeting of the address. He represented the Methodist Church as in the full tide of progress towards reunion.

T. H. Colhouer, also, in response, called attention to the historic relation of our two Churches, and argued the propriety of an organic union between them.

J. Scott likewise made remarks, advocating the union of the Methodist and M. P. Churches, as a step initiatory to the final union of all branches of Methodism.

Adjourned. Prayer by C. W. Button.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

MAY 27th, 1875.

Opening religious services conducted by G. W. Hissey.

The vote of the Conference limiting the time for presentation of papers contemplating amendments, was reconsidered.

A paragraph, offered by J. J. Smith, for insertion in the Discipline, stating the office, position and duties of supernumerary ministers, was adopted.

W. M. Kerr presented a paper relating to unstationed ministers, which was referred to Committee on Organic Provisions.

C. R. Underwood offered a paper regarding the use of titles in the METHODIST RECORDER. Referred to Committee on Publishing Interests.

P. J. Strong offered a resolution to appoint a special committee, of one minister and two laymen, to take into consideration the subject of church property, and to suggest measures for the greater security of such property. Resolution adopted. Committee—R. Burns, P. F. Remsburgh, J. W. Bush.

Agreed that this evening's session be devoted to hearing Prof. Schindler on College Interests.

On motion of J. J. Smith, it was agreed to strike out certain portions of the Historical Preface; also, to insert other paragraphs instead.

The Committee on Ministerial Education was directed to nominate persons to constitute the Board of Ministerial Education.

The report of Committee on Administrative Rules was taken from the file and adopted. [See Appendix G.]



in singing the spiritual song originated by Dr. Hunter, commencing,

"Joyfully, joyfully, onward we move."

The Conference proceeded to elect Fraternal Messengers to the General Conference of the M. E. Church. J. Scott, W. H. Jordan, J. Cowl, F. H. Pierpoint, F. H. Collier and P. F. Remsburgh.

Resolutions, offered by Alexander Clark, were adopted, expressing high appreciation of the visits of Bishop Janes, Dr. Hunter and Hon. C. W. Button, and the same were ordered to be added to the report on Methodistic Union.

W. H. Jordan, pastor of the church now entertaining the Conference, was permitted to make a statement of the history of the church and its present embarrassments, in view of eliciting some active sympathy and aid from brethren of other portions of the connection. A special committee was ordered, to which should be referred the entire matter of the Princeton Church. J. Scott, Finch and Gillespie.

Adjourned. Prayer by Dr. Hunter.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

MAY 28th, 1875.

Opening religious services conducted by J. L. Scott.

J. Warner, on account of personal illness was granted leave of absence.—

The report of Committee on Methodistic Union was taken up and acted on. On motion, all the report, except the item relating to the election of nine Commissioners, was laid on the table. The said first item was adopted. [See Appendix L.]

Conference proceeded to ballot for nine persons for Commissioners, with the following result: J. Burns, J. J. Smith, T. J. Finch, F. H. Pierpoint, J. J. Gillespie, E. A. Wheat, P. F. Remsburgh, A. Clark, G. B. McElroy.

Adjourned. Benediction by the President.

#### NIGHT SESSION.

MAY 28th, 1875.

Opening religious services conducted by J. H. Luse.

Conference proceeded to the election, by ballot, of Editor and Publishing Agent. Alexander Clark was declared duly elected Editor, and James Robison, Publishing Agent.

The reports of Committee on Conference Districts were taken from the file, and put on their passage. The item relating to divisions, in view of Ministerial Associations, was laid on the table. And the reports were amended and adopted. [See Appendix K.]

At 10 A. M., the hour was devoted to the presentation and address of Rev. Wm. Hunter, Fraternal Messenger appointed by the General Conference of the M. E. Church, and responses thereto. The credentials of Dr. Hunter, as Messenger, were read; also, a communication from G. Martin, D. D., his co-Messenger. Dr. H. addressed the Conference in the kind spirit which belongs to his nature. He showed that the tendencies of the times are all looking towards a unifying of all the members of the Methodist family. Two legitimate but distinct Methodist bodies, he thought, cannot occupy the same territory without friction; hence the need of union. He accorded all charity and Christian confidence to those of the minor branches, and kindly gave notice that the latch-string of the old homestead is hanging out for all disposed to enter.

A. H. Bassett responded to the address, reciprocating its expressions of Christian sympathy and good will. He briefly sketched the circumstances that ultimated in the organization of the Methodist Protestant Church, delicately referring to the expulsions of 1828, which necessitated the secession, he having been a witness of the proceedings. In this light he regarded our organization as a providential necessity, and considered that we owe no apology for our distinct denominational existence. Our Church, he claimed, is a child of Providence, and our mission has not yet *run out*. He congratulated the M. E. Church that they had introduced lay delegation into their General Conference, thus conceding the great principle for which we have ever contended, and expressed the hope that the day is not distant when they will introduce lay representation into the Annual as well as General Conferences.

J. Cowl, in kind and generous words, greeted the Messenger. We do not, he said, intend that the M. E. Church shall to-day excel us in love, or in any one of the elements constituting a true Christian manhood. We will have no serious strife with a sister denomination. With them we are one in striving to win souls to Christ, and promoting all the interests of His kingdom. The speaker, in closing, led the Conference



L. C. Pace and W. R. Parsons were appointed Fraternal Messengers to the National Council of the Congregational Church.

S. M. Gentry and Wm. Remsburg, were appointed Fraternal Messengers to the Friends' Yearly Meeting.

The President of this General Conference was authorized to fill any vacancy that may occur in any one of the Fraternal Visitations before named.

The following, offered by H. Stackhouse, was unanimously adopted :

*Resolved*, That we endorse and recommend our Church Hymn Book, "The Voice of Praise," as eminently worthy of adoption among the churches. It is a compilation of great care and good taste. Its arrangement of topics, its variety of subjects, and its embodiment of the principal standard hymns of Methodism, are such as to deserve the approbation of our people everywhere.

Conference directed that the collection taken last Sabbath be passed to the Stewards of the Princeton Church.

Committee on Course of Study presented a report, which was adopted. [See Appendix M.]

Committee on Official Bodies presented a report, which was adopted. [See Appendix N.]

Committee on Administrative Rules presented a report, which, after some amendment, was adopted. [See Appendix G.]

S. H. Flood offered the following, which was adopted :

*Resolved*, That our Commissioners on Union with the Methodist Protestant Church are instructed by this General Conference to enter into no arrangement with the Commissioners of the Methodist Protestant Church that will not be subject to the decision of the General Conference of the Methodist Church, at its next session after the action of said Commissioners, said Conference retaining the right to approve or reject the same.

Report of Committee on Missions was taken up and recommended.

J. Scott offered the following, which was adopted, as a proposition subject to the action of the several Annual Conferences :

Amend Article VII., Section 4, of the Constitution, by inserting, after the word "proceedings," in the fifth and sixth lines, the words following: "And who shall continue in office until their successors shall be elected, at the ensuing General

A resolution, offered by J. M. Flood, touching the composition of the Board of Publication, the duties of the Board, Editor, and Publishing Agent, was referred to a special committee. Chair appointed J. M. Flood, Gillespie, Wheat, Savage, Douglas.

The portion of the report on Ministerial Education, nominating certain persons for the Board of Ministerial Education and Corresponding Secretary of the same, was taken from the file, and the President was authorized to cast the ballot of the Conference for the nominees. The following were declared duly elected to constitute the Board: D. Jones, J. L. Simpson, W. R. Cowl, J. H. Claney, W. K. Gillespie, John Munden. Corresponding Secretary, J. B. Walker.

A paper, presented by Committee on Fraternal Visitations, as addition to report, was adopted. [See Appendix E.]

The following, introduced by J. Scott, was adopted:

*Resolved*, That this General Conference, in view of the felt want of a reliable history of our Church from its beginning, most respectfully request A. H. Bassett, who largely has the materials at hand, and whose knowledge of our history is, perhaps, greater than that of any other living man, to prepare such a work at his earliest convenience, and either publish the same, or arrange with the Board of Publication to do so.

The following, offered by Alexander Clark, was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this General Conference are due, and are hereby tendered, to brother A. H. Widney, Editor and Publisher of the *Daily Recorder*, for his faithful report of the doings of this body; also, to brother J. M. Mayall and wife, for their aid in making this session so pleasant to us all; and especially to brother W. H. Jordan and wife, for courteous attentions, and for their arduous labors in making our temporary homes and social enjoyments so complete.

J. J. Smith offered a paper, suggesting certain amendments touching the manner of trying ministers and preachers. Was referred to Committee on Administrative Rules.

Adjourned at 10 P. M. Prayer by W. H. Jordan.

#### SATURDAY MORNING.

MAY 29th, 1875.

Opening religious services conducted by J. Selby.

Wm. Collier, T. H. Colhouer, J. R. Mulvane and John Scott were appointed Fraternal Messengers to the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church.



return home, use our best influence to aid, in every practicable way, in raising means to relieve our Church in Princeton from its embarrassment. We recommend that the amount collected be published in the METHODIST RECORDER, from time to time.

W. S. Horn presented a paper regarding the Church at Lincoln, Neb., which was referred to the Board of Church Extension.

Committee on Publishing Interests presented a supplemental report, which was amended so as to make the residence of five members of the Board to be within the limits of the Pittsburgh Conference, and then was adopted. [See Appendix J.]

The Secretary was instructed to cast the ballot of the Conference for the following persons, to constitute the Board of Publication: J. J. Gillespie, Wm. Rinehart, T. W. Shaw, W. J. Troth, W. Tate, Jr., John Burns, T. B. Graham.

Conference, by unanimous vote, approved and adopted the Charter of the Board of Publication. [See Appendix J.]

Report of Committee on Official Bodies was taken from the file, and, after being amended, was adopted. [See Appendix N.]

The following, offered by brother Stackhouse, was adopted:

Discipline, Section III, page 46, item 10, strike out "two" and insert "three." After the words "under a license," insert "one year of which shall have been as a licentiate in the Methodist Church."

S. H. Flood offered the following Disciplinary amendments, which were adopted:

Discipline, page 20, Article 14, amend so as to read, "The baptism of [adult believers and] young children shall be retained in the Church."

Page 30, Section 2, item 3, so amend as to read, "[Baptism and] the Lord's Supper," &c.

Adjourned. Prayer by T. J. Finch.

#### NIGHT SESSION.

MAY 29th, 1875.

Opening religious services conducted by S. M. Gentry.

G. B. McElroy offered the following, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That A. H. Bassett and C. S. Evans be and they are hereby appointed to prepare for publication, in pamphlet form, the Journals of the transactions of this General Conference, and

Conference, and the Secretary shall be held responsible for the preservation of our official records."

The following, offered by T. F. Scott, was also adopted:

*Whereas*, T. H. Colhouer is preparing and compiling Biographical Sketches of the Fathers and Founders of our Church, now in press ;

*Resolved*, That we look with favor on this publication, as a tribute richly merited by the pre-eminent labors and sacrifices of the Fathers and Founders of our Church.

Report of Committee on Official Duties was taken from the file, and, after being amended, was adopted. [See Appendix O.]

Committee on Missions presented an additional report, which was adopted. [See Appendix C.]

Conference proceeded to the election, by ballot, of Secretary of the Board of Missions. C. H. Williams was declared duly elected.

Adjourned. Prayer by T. Chambers.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

MAY 29th, 1875.

Opening religious services conducted by A. H. Widney.

Conference proceeded to the election of the Board of Missions, by ballot. R. Rose, C. S. Evans, T. J. Finch, J. S. Thrapp, W. Collier, H. Stackhouse, C. R. Underwood were elected.

D. B. Turney introduced a paper proposing a change in the Ritual on adult baptism. The paper was laid on the table ; whereupon the author of the paper had his protest against the action entered upon the Journal.

Committee on the interests of Princeton Church presented report, which was adopted, as follows :

*Resolved*, That this Conference greatly regrets the financial embarrassment of our Church in Princeton, feeling that the loss of this property would be highly detrimental to the interests of the whole Church in the West ;

*Therefore, Resolved*, That should the Church at Princeton deem it expedient to appoint an agent to visit the various Conferences, or arrange to have the interests of the Church in Princeton brought before them, we will most heartily endorse such movement, and as individual members of this Conference, will, on our



Committee on Methodistic Union presented the remaining part of their report, which was adopted. [See Appendix L.] S. H. Flood offered the following, which was adopted :

*Resolved*, That the Editing Committee be and are hereby required to remove from the Discipline, page 30, Section 3, item 2, first line, the words, "who have been baptized," thereby harmonizing the same with the Constitution.

Adjourned at 10:23 P. M., with Doxology, and Benediction by the President.

### MONDAY MORNING.

MAY 31, (7:30,) 1875.

Opening religious exercises conducted by Wm. Remsburg.

It was ordered that the determination of the place for holding the next General Conference be committed to the President of this Conference, the Editor of the METHODIST RECORDER, and the Publishing Agent, they, as a committee, to publish due notice of the same.

On motion of J. Scott, the ratio of representation to the General Conference is left as it now stands in the Discipline.

On motion, the Editing Committee was instructed to put the Rules of Order, adopted by this General Conference, in the new edition of the Discipline.

Report of Committee on Administrative Rules was taken from the table and adopted. [See Appendix G.]

The following persons were appointed alternate Commissioners, to meet a like Commission from the M. P. Church : J. M. Flood, A. H. Bassett, W. Collier, W. H. Jordan, J. Scott.

A paper, offered in lieu of report of Committee on Parenthesis, was presented, and laid on the table ; and, by request of the committee, its previous report was returned to the committee.

The following resolutions, offered by J. Scott, were adopted :

*Resolved*, That all the changes which were made by the General Conference, which met in Allegheny City, Pa., in November, 1866, in the Constitution and Discipline of the Methodist Protestant Church, including the change of name from "Methodist Protestant" to "Methodist," were made in a strictly legal and constitutional way, the said General Conference having been clothed with conventional powers by the requisite number of An-

in order to do this, that they shall have free access to and use of all the Minutes of this General Conference.

*Resolved, further,* That the same parties be and they are hereby appointed a committee to edit the new edition of the Discipline, demanded by the amendments and changes ordered by this General Conference.

On motion of J. Scott, the Board of Publication was directed to arrange with the Editing Committee, the matter of compensation for the labor performed by them.

It was ordered that the laws governing the several Boards, as passed by this General Conference, be inserted in the Book of Discipline, in their proper places

Committee on Centenary Offerings presented a report, which was adopted. [See Appendix P.]

Report of Committee on Faith and Practice was taken from the file, and, after being amended, was adopted. [See Appendix Q.]

The following resolutions, offered by W. R. Parsons, were unanimously adopted:

*Resolved,* That the grateful thanks of this General Conference are due to the Methodist and sister denominations and churches, and the people of Princeton and vicinity, for their generous hospitality, so kindly bestowed upon the members of this body.

*Resolved,* That we tender to the pastors of sister churches our grateful thanks for their considerate attentions, in the use of their pulpits, and the Christian courtesy extended to our members. And we most devoutly pray that God may bless the dear families who have so cordially welcomed us to their homes, and made our visit so replete in social and home-like enjoyments.

*Resolved,* That having a grateful appreciation of the kindly sympathy and delicate taste manifested in furnishing the beautiful array of flowers in our General Conference room, that we tender to the fair donors our sincere gratitude.

A resolution, offered by J. L. Simpson, was adopted, favorably recognizing the National Christian Temperance Alliance, to meet in Chicago, June 1st, prox., and appointing a delegation of ministers and laymen to represent our Church in said body: J. J. Smith, J. L. Simpson, G. W. Kent, J. R. Mulvane, W. H. Jordan, T. F. Scott, were appointed.

The following, offered by A. H. Bassett, was adopted:

*Resolved,* That the thanks of this Conference be tendered to those Railroad Companies which have favored those attending its sessions with reduced fare in passing over their roads, viz: the C., B. & Q. R. R., the Ill. Cent. R. R., the C., R. I. & P. R. R., the P., Ft. W. & C. Ry., the P., C. & St. L. Ry., and the Penn'a. Central R. R.



*Resolved*, 1. That Thomas J. Finch be elected Treasurer of General Conference funds.

*Resolved*, 2. That each Annual Conference be requested to pay over to said Treasurer, annually, out of a General Conference collection, the sum of one-half cent for each member in full connection.

*Resolved*, 3. That any funds remaining, after defraying said expenses, be held subject to the disposal of the ensuing General Conference.

The following was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the money raised for the relief of Princeton Church, be forwarded immediately to J. R. Mulvane, Princeton, Ill.

The remainder of report of Committee on Official Bodies was taken from the file, and laid on the table.

E. A. Wheat offered the following, to be added to the list of questions propounded in the form of ordination. Adopted.

"Will you diligently strive to promote an active interest in behalf of all the general and local interests of the Church, among the people committed to your care?"

Report of Committee on Moral Reforms was taken from the file, and, after some amendment, was adopted. [See Appendix S.]

The Special Committee on Church Extension presented a supplemental report, which was adopted. [See Appendix D.]

The Committee on Security of Church Property presented a report, which was adopted. [See Appendix T.]

The following, offered by H. L. Bowen, was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the General Conference hereby tenders to Rev. J. Burns, by a rising vote, our sincere thanks for the impartial manner and patience with which he has performed the arduous duties of President of this General Conference. Also, that the same is hereby due to the Secretaries, G. B. McElroy, A. H. Bassett and C. S. Evans.

Report of Committee on Church Extension was again brought before Conference.

The President was authorized to cast the ballot of the Conference for the persons nominated in the report, which was done, and they were declared duly elected, as follows: J. R. Mulvane, J. M. Mayall, P. J. Strong, T. Kelly, P. F. Remsburgh, A. H. Widney, James Ross, W. H. Jordan, G. L. Taylor.

The President was also directed to cast the ballot of the Conference for A. H. Widney, for Corresponding Secretary of

nual Conferences, according to the provisions of the Constitution for said purpose.

*Resolved*, That the acceptance of the Discipline of the Church, as thus amended, by the various bodies represented in the General Conference, in Cleveland, Ohio, in May, 1867, was not the organization of a new body, but the union of other elements with the Methodist Church, whose Constitution and Discipline they substantially adopted.

*Therefore, Resolved*, That the Methodist Church is not a new organization, dating its existence from the General Conference held in Cleveland, Ohio, in May, 1867, but that it is substantially the Methodist Protestant Church, in all that is essential to its identity, the name having been changed in a legal and constitutional manner.

*Therefore, Resolved*, That the sessions of the General Conference should be numbered in regular order, from the organization of the Church, in 1830.

R. Rose offered the following, which was adopted:

*Whereas*, This General Conference, in constituting the Board of Missions, has taken persons from five different Conferences;

*And whereas*, Each meeting of the Board is likely to involve a cost of from \$75.00 to \$80.00;

*And whereas*, Vacancies may occur in the Board, by death or otherwise;

*Therefore, Resolved*, That if, in the providence of God, a vacancy should occur in the Board of Missions before the assembling of the next General Conference, it may be filled by the Board, without respect to the location of the member.

J. Kost offered the following, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That we do not differ from other churches in the use of prefixes or titles to the name of Christian ministers.

The report of Committee on Statistics was taken from the file, and adopted, subject to future corrections. [See Appendix R.]

The report of Committee on Sunday Schools was taken from the file, and laid on the table.

The report of Committee on Church Extension was taken from the file. It was amended, by changing Pittsburgh to Princeton, and was then committed to a special committee: R. Burns, H. Stackhouse, P. F. Remsburg.

H. Stackhouse offered the following, which was adopted:

*Whereas*, The General Conference agreed to defray, in part or in whole, the expenses of certain Commissioners and others, in carrying out the requirements of this body:

*And whereas*, No provision has yet been made to meet these or other expenses incurred by the General Conference; therefore,



# APPENDIX.

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## DOCUMENT A.

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BRIEF OPENING ADDRESS, BY A. H. BASSETT, CHAIRMAN, PRO  
TEM. OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE. ORDERED  
FOR PUBLICATION.

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As the Great Head of the Church has been pleased to permit the assembling of this General Conference, it is fitting that we should acknowledge His hand. Surely, it is because He hath assisted us with His most gracious favor, and furthered us with His continued help, that we have the privilege of sitting together in this capacity to-day. We may congratulate ourselves and give thanks unto God, that we have thus far surmounted the difficulties which have beset our path, and that we have attained the degree of prosperity which we have realized. In our humble reliance upon God, He hath led us on, and to-day we hear a voice bidding us, Arise, shine, for thy light is come.

In retrospecting our career as a people, we cannot boast of extraordinary successes or achievements. Perhaps it is well, for had this been the case, our heart might have been lifted up, and we might have been tempted to say: "We got the land in possession by our own sword, and our own arm saved us." We cannot claim to be a people strong in numbers, in comparison with the large denominations. This again may be well for us, that we be not guilty of the pride of numbers or of popularity. God calls us to be a humble people. And it may be His pleasure that we inherit the blessing pronounced upon the little flock, who are to inherit the kingdom. He that dwelleth in the high and holy place, dwelleth also with them that are of a humble spirit. He will own and bless his faithful ones, though they be of the least of the tribes of Israel. And he sometimes ordains that one shall chase a thousand, and two shall put ten thousand to flight. We gratefully claim that God hath been with us, and hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad. Here let us raise our Ebenezer. Hitherto the Lord hath helped us. Let us join our-

the Board of Church Extension, which was done, and he was declared duly elected.

The following was adopted, as amendment, in examination of official character of pastors in the Annual Conference.

Insert, at page 52 of Discipline, as question 4, "Have you attended the Missionary meetings in your district? If not, what reason have you to assign for your absence? and the Conference shall judge, and act accordingly."

The following, offered by W. R. Parsons, was adopted:

*Resolved*, That while we are very grateful for the kindly sentiments and Christian courtesy extended to the Methodist Church, by the Methodist Episcopal Church, it is our firm and unalterable conviction that the Methodist Church has a providential mission, and that we deem it our bounden duty to adhere to our distinctive organization, till our principles of Church Government are fully recognized by the world.

On motion, the minutes of the session were read, and the General Conference, at 10:15 A. M., adjourned *sine die*.

All joined in singing,

"Together let us sweetly live," &c.,

And the closing prayer was offered by Rev. W. Hunter, Editor of the *Pittsburgh Christian Advocate*.

J. BURNS, *President*.

G. B. McELROY, *Principal Sec'y*.

A. H. BASSETT, }  
C. S. EVANS, } *Editing Committee.*



The Michigan Conference effected a division in 1858, establishing the West Michigan Conference, and both have been blessed with prosperity.

Same year, the Iowa Conference divided, setting off the North Iowa Conference. Both are doing well.

We have for many years had a small Conference in Wisconsin, but we see that it has reattached itself to the North Illinois Conference. We have a small, but energetic and growing Conference in Minnesota, embracing some noble, sacrificing men. We have a Nebraska Conference, which has for fifteen years been struggling to overcome the discouragements incident to frontier organization. Our Kansas Conference was organized in 1863, and for a number of years its success seemed doubtful. But, by the blessing of God, the labors of sacrificing men have resulted in building up a Conference comparing favorably with older bodies.

We have two Conferences in Missouri, which were raised up in troublous times, (war times). But, by the blessing of God, they have survived the fire of tribulation, and are now self-sustaining and prosperous. For many years we have had a small Conference in Oregon and Washington Territory, embracing a band of a noble few. But its isolation has impeded its growth.

I am sorry that we cannot report progress for a small Conference in California, where a number of good and true men have for several years been endeavoring to build up an organization.

All these Conferences, this family of Conferences, were started by instrumentalities and men who went forth from our work. All may be deemed branches from the original nucleus, organized at Cincinnati, Oct. 12, 1829. Thus we have now over twenty Conferences within the territory originally embraced by the Ohio Conference.

Let us thank God, and take courage. In the name of our God, let us set up our banners, and in His name let us go forward.

selves unto Him in a perpetual covenant, saying: "Let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths."

As this is the first time a General Conference has come thus far west, even to the prairie land, it may be acceptable, by way of greeting, to give an outline of our progress in what is usually termed the West.

Immediately after the expulsion of reformers from the M. E. Church, at Cincinnati, in 1828, secessions took place there and at many other points, of those who felt that they could not honorably remain, but must go with their expelled brethren. In view of maintaining the ordinary usages of Methodism, including the itinerant system, arrangements were made for organizing an Annual Conference for the West. It was called the Ohio Conference. The first session was held at Cincinnati, Oct. 12, 1829. Its field embraced the entire scope from the Allegheny Mountains to the Pacific Ocean. At that session of Conference were assembled men from West Virginia, West Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois, and I think one man from Missouri. For four years this one Conference embraced all this vast region. At the fifth session of Conference, 1833, it was found necessary to divide the Conference and the territory. The eastern portion was called the Pittsburgh Conference, and the western retaining the name Ohio Conference. Three years after, 1836, we set off the Illinois Conference, and with it the great West beyond. In three years again, 1839, we set off the Indiana Conference, including the State of Indiana.

Three years after, 1842, the Michigan Conference was organized. The Ohio Conference, once of so limitless extent, was now left to include only Western Ohio, and bordering parts of Kentucky. Of late years a small Conference has been organized in the last named State, which seems to promise well.

Meanwhile, the Pittsburgh Conference, in 1842, divided, establishing the Muskingum Conference, which has grown to be the largest in our Connection. Subsequently, 1854, the Pittsburgh Conference set off the West Virginia Conference. This body now claims to be Methodist Protestant. And why not? Are we not all of a household? And is it not expected that the *Virginia fence* standing between us will shortly be removed? I believe that fence is not *staked* and *ridered*.

In the course of these years other Conference organizations have been multiplied. The Illinois Conference, in 1846, set off the Iowa Conference, thus relinquishing the Great West. Same year, the Indiana Conference set off the North Indiana Conference, at first called Wabash. Besides there is to-day, in the same State, a prosperous Conference known as Methodist Protestant, making three in the State of Indiana.

The case is similar in Illinois. We have North Illinois and South Illinois Conferences, in both which our good work prospers gloriously. And there is also in the State, a Conference known as Methodist Protestant.



## COMMITTEES.

## RULE III.

All committees shall be appointed by the President, except as otherwise directed in the Book of Discipline, or by special vote of Conference.

## RULE IV.

Any person being a member of two committees shall have the right to decline an appointment to another, and no person shall be appointed to more than one standing committee.

## RULE V.

When required by the President or any member of Conference, any motion shall be written, signed and read aloud by the mover, handed to the chair, and read aloud by the Secretary, before any order can be taken upon it by the Conference, except privileged questions.

## RULE VI.

Any motion may be divided, if the sense will admit of the proposed division.

## RULE VII.

No proposition to amend, that amounts to a substitute, shall be entertained.

## RULE VIII.

When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received but to adjourn, to lay on the table, for the previous question, to postpone, to commit, to amend—which several motions shall have precedence in the order in which they stand in this rule; the *first* three to be taken without debate, and the *first* always in order.

## RULE IX.

The previous question shall be in this form: "shall the main question be now put?" It shall only be admitted when demanded by three of the members present, and sustained by a majority, and its effect shall be to put an end to all debate and bring the Conference to a direct vote on the main question and all pending amendments.

## DECORUM.

## RULE X.

When two or more members rise at the same time, the President shall decide which of them is entitled to the floor.

## RULE XI.

No interruption shall be allowed while a member is addressing the chair, except a call to order by the President or a member.

## DOCUMENT B.

### RULES OF ORDER OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

#### RULE I.

The President shall take the chair precisely at the hour agreed on at the last adjournment.

1. He shall preserve the most rigid order, and confine the members to the subject under consideration.

2. He shall not allow improper personalities, nor reflections upon any religious community.

3. He shall announce each person rising to speak so soon as he shall have addressed the chair, by declaring his name, or, "the Minister from——," or, "the Representative from——."

4. He may state a question sitting, but shall stand when a question is put and taken; also, when he states a point of order; and, also, when he makes any formal communication to the Conference.

5. In all cases of election by ballot, the President shall be allowed to vote; in other cases he shall not vote unless the Conference is equally divided, or unless his vote, if given to the minority, will make the division equal; and in case of such equal division, the question shall be lost.

6. He may call any other member to the chair when he wishes to participate in debate, or for other purpose; but such person shall not be entitled to the chair after an adjournment.

#### RULE II.

The Secretaries shall perform such duties as are usually required of such officers of a deliberative body; and also,

1. They shall have charge of all papers belonging to the Conference and shall be accountable for them.

2. They shall be in their place precisely at the hour agreed on at the last adjournment.

3. They shall keep an accurate list of all the members of Conference.

4. They shall keep correct minutes of the proceedings of Conference.

5. They shall keep a list of business, on which they shall record all important business brought before the Conference, and in the order of its presentation.

6. They shall keep a list of committees, on which they shall record all the committees appointed by the Conference, and in the order of their appointment.



## RULE XIX.

No member of Conference shall withdraw himself from its sittings without permission until all the business shall have been transacted. Any member desiring to retire from the Conference room during business hours, should ask permission from the chair.

## ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR THE DIURNAL SESSIONS.

## RULE XX.

The Conference shall be opened by reading in the Scriptures, or by singing and prayer, under the direction of the President, or in case of his absence, under the direction of the Secretary. If the President be absent still, a President *pro tempore* shall be appointed.

## RULE XXI.

The reading of the minutes of the previous day shall be first in order, and if there is no objection to them they shall stand approved.

## RULE XXII.

The business next in order shall be the report of committees, called for in the order in which they stand on the list of committees. They shall not report at any other time without special leave, and all reports of committees, when made, shall be considered the property of the Conference without further action.

## RULE XXIII.

When any business is laid on the table, it may be made the order of the day for any other day of the session, and at a specified hour.

## RULE XXIV.

Ordinary business shall have precedence in the order in which it stands on the list of business.

## RULE XXV.

When any business is taken into consideration, it shall not be interrupted by any other business, except the order of the day, or by adjournment.

## RULE EXTRA.

No member shall use tobacco in the house during the sittings of Conference.

## RULE XII.

When a member is called to order he shall take his seat immediately and be silent until the President or member who made the call shall state the rule of order supposed to be infringed, after which the member called to order shall have the right to explain, and the President shall decide.

## RULE XIII.

In deciding a question of order, the President shall restrict himself to the rules of order, and any member declared to be out of order by the President, may, if he obtain a second, appeal to the Conference, but the question on such appeal shall be taken without debate. If the Conference sustain the chair, the member shall be allowed to proceed only in order.

## RULE XIV.

No member shall speak more than once to the same question without special leave of Conference, unless he be the mover, proposer or introducer of the matter, in which case he shall be permitted to speak in reply, but not until every member choosing to speak shall have spoken.

## RULE XV.

No member shall maintain any private conversation during business hours within the bar of the house, nor pass between the Chairman and any person who may be speaking. While a question is being taken, or the Chairman is addressing the Conference, no member shall walk out of or across the house. No member or other person shall visit or remain at the Secretary's table while the ayes and noes are calling or the ballots are counting.

## RULE XVI.

No member shall be allowed to explain remarks made in a previous speech, except in regular debate, unless a member replying thereto requests it, or unless another member requests it; but any member so called upon to explain shall have the right to decline any explanation.

## RULE XVII.

Every member shall have right to call for the reading of the subject under consideration.

## RULE XVIII.

Every member within the bar of the house, when a question is taken, shall give his vote, unless for special reasons the Conference shall excuse him. Any member wishing to be excused from voting shall have the right to state his reasons therefor, briefly, after which the question shall be taken without further debate.



result of these efforts. Little as we seem to have accomplished in missionary work, perhaps no expenditure of money by our Church has been more fruitful of good, in proportion to the amount expended, than our missionary contributions.

By the action of the convention held at Cincinnati, November, 1862, the location of the Board of Missions was transferred from Pittsburgh to Springfield, Ohio. Not having access to the reports of all the several corresponding secretaries or treasurers of the Board, I am unable to give the amount of money raised and expended in this work. From the report of the Treasurer, it appears that for the four years preceding the General Conference held at Allegheny City, November, 1866, the receipts were \$10,513.71. The report of my immediate predecessor, brother R. Rose, made to the General Conference in Pittsburgh, May, 1871, covering a period of four years, the receipts were only \$5,554.64. This falling off from the receipts of the preceding quadrennial term, can be accounted for by the fact, that for the greater part of the time there was no active general agency to keep alive the missionary spirit among the preachers and people, and secure the collection of funds for carrying on the missionary work. The work was left almost entirely to the pastors, and they seem to have neglected, to a great extent, the collection of money for general missionary purposes. Had the entire time and labors of brother Rose, the Corresponding Secretary of the Board, been devoted to the cause, it is fair to presume, from his well known energy and success in building up the interests of the Church, the results would have been very different, and instead of so large a decrease, there would, no doubt, have been an increase. No blame attaches to the Board of Missions, or to brother Rose, for this condition of things, for they, no doubt, did what to them seemed best under the circumstances. Another effect of this policy was to disorganize our missionary enterprises. Failing to get funds from the churches, the Board was compelled to withhold support from the missionaries in the field, or, at most, supply such limited means as to compel them to give up the work, or struggle on under very great discouragements. In all the Mission Conferences there was a spirit of despondency. Perhaps a still more hurtful influence was manifest in many of the Annual Conferences. They had almost lost the missionary spirit, so far as general missions is concerned, and seemed disposed to apply nearly, or quite all of their means for carrying on the local work of their Conferences. When I made my first official visit to some of the Conferences, and attempted to secure the more thorough organization of our mission work, I found but little sympathy, and, in some instances, almost open opposition, which, but for loyalty to the Discipline of the Church, and action of the General Conference, it would have been difficult to overcome. Good, loyal brethren had so far lost faith in general missionary effort, that they seemed indisposed to engage in it. A few only of the pastors had taken the missionary collections, and these omissions of duty passed without reproof or admonition.



## DOCUMENT C.

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### BOARD OF MISSIONS.

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#### REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY OF THE BOARD OF MISSIONS.

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It is only a little more than eighty years since the idea of evangelizing the world, by missionary effort, dawned upon the Christian Church of America, and the first Protestant missionary was sent to heathen lands. Heathenism was then in darkness, and the Church insensible to its condition. Since then four thousand missionaries have been sent out, and a million and a half converted to Christianity. The gospel is preached in two hundred different languages, and the different branches of the Christian Church seem inspired with the thought of evangelizing the world. Throughout the destitute portions of our own country there is a field already ripe unto the harvest, and into this field nearly all of the religious denominations have entered, and are expending hundreds and thousands of dollars annually, with the most encouraging results. Thus far our own denomination has accomplished comparatively little in this department of Christian effort; yet enough has been done to encourage us to enter more largely into the missionary field. That our present *status*, in reference to this subject, may be better understood it seems necessary to refer briefly to the past. As early as 1838, at the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, the subject of Home and Foreign Missions was taken under consideration, and that body created a Board of Foreign Missions, consisting of five ministers and seven laymen, locating the same at Baltimore. A few months afterwards this Board sent a colored preacher, who is spoken of as an intelligent and pious man, as a missionary to Africa. For reasons which need not here be stated, this enterprise failed and was abandoned, and little or nothing more was done in missionary operations until the General Conference of 1850, when a new Board was organized, located at Pittsburgh, and several agents were placed in the field successively, to arouse into action the missionary spirit which might be found in the churches, and to raise funds to carry forward missionary operations. A mission was established in Oregon Territory, where a respectable Annual Conference was afterwards organized, and which, though not strong or numerous, still exists. Subsequently missionary efforts have been begun in Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, and California; also in Georgia, North Carolina, and Tennessee. Several Annual Conferences have grown into existence as the



Board not to send them a missionary. Things remained in this condition until last summer, when I again opened a correspondence with them, and Dr. Scott, a member of the Board, visited them, and arrangements were made to renew the effort to accomplish something in Lincoln. Subsequently brother J. W. Ellis, of the Pittsburgh Conference, was sent by the Board as missionary to that charge, and soon after removed to Lincoln, and began his work with encouraging prospects. Everything seemed to be moving forward satisfactorily. Brother E.'s salary, which was liberal, was forwarded promptly, in advance, monthly; when, to our surprise, we received notice of his resignation, and asking the Board to accept the same. This was done upon the condition that such action would be acceptable to the Church at Lincoln. Still later, we were advised that he had left his charge and the Methodist Church. What effect this may have upon the mission there, yet remains to be seen. We have there a band of men and women, tried and true, and we hope they may yet overcome all these discouragements. It is the duty of the Church, so long as they are true to the Church, to stand by them. At Nebraska City we had a small, but neat brick church, with a small membership. I visited them, and found them so much discouraged, that it was hard to rally them. A debt upon their church, and other circumstances, seemed to have crushed out all hope. In connection with brother Mayall, who had visited them when in Nebraska, I undertook to raise money enough among our friends further east, to pay off a mortgage held against the church. We had secured the greater part of the required sum, when the trustees sold the property, and we have lost all we had in Nebraska City. It is doubtful whether anything could have been done there had we held the property, so completely disheartened had the brethren there become, that it seemed a hopeless task to make further effort.

The last General Conference recommended that the Board of Missions should, if practicable, establish missions in Kansas City, Missouri, and in Adrian, Michigan. I made a visit to Kansas City, in company with brother Alexander Clark, in the early part of October, 1873. After spending some two days there, and making a thorough investigation, we were well convinced that with a suitable missionary, and the means to support him, and build a house of worship, even a temporary one, a successful mission might be sustained in Kansas City, with prospects of building up a permanent organization; yet, for want of means, it has been impracticable for the Board to enter this most inviting field.

In the summer of 1873, after due consultation with the college church at Adrian, the Board appointed brother A. C. Ellis as missionary at Adrian, the Church there agreeing to pay a portion of his salary. Brother Ellis entered earnestly and promptly upon his work, and the most encouraging indications of success were apparent. Services were held regularly in the college chapel, and a deep religious influence seemed to attend them. Measures were adopted for building a suitable church edifice in the city, but the financial panic coming on just as this enterprise was begun, it



Without casting any reflections upon any previously existing Board, or upon any Conference or pastor, or any person whomsoever, I have made this statement of facts, to indicate the situation as existing at the time the missionary interests of the Church came under the management of the present Board. The last General Conference, as you know, located the Board of Missions in Pittsburgh. Soon after the close of the General Conference in May, 1871, the members of the Board residing in and near Pittsburgh, met and organized temporarily. Nothing more was done until early in September, when the full Board met and organized permanently by electing the proper officers. Action was taken requiring the Corresponding Secretary to devote his entire time to the missionary interests of the Church. Measures were also taken to organize a General Missionary Society, and a Sabbath School Missionary Society. An Executive Committee was appointed, consisting of brothers John H. Claney, T. F. Scott and Robert Marshall, and to them was committed the duty of getting out suitable medals and certificates of membership in these societies. After considerable delay, owing to want of funds and other causes, the medal and Sabbath School certificates were provided, and have been found to be valuable helps in awakening an interest, especially among the Sunday Schools. A temporary life membership certificate for the General Society has also been provided, but being printed from the same plate as the life membership certificate of the Sabbath School Society, it has proved unsatisfactory; and I have been unable to use it to any advantage, as those who have paid for life membership, prefer to wait until a more suitable certificate shall have been issued. This is a want seriously felt, which should be provided for at the earliest practicable period. Without it, little can be done in securing funds except by appeals from the pulpit. With it, the Secretary and pastors could do much by personal effort among the more wealthy and benevolent members and friends of the Church. Soon after the organization of our Board, I visited the Nebraska Conference at its session in Lincoln, in September, 1871. That body, still desiring to be recognized as a Missionary Conference, voted to place themselves under the care of the Board of Missions. Arrangements were made to employ brother S. G. Lamb as missionary in Lincoln City. The Board to pay him three hundred dollars, and the Church to meet the rest of his salary. It was also arranged for brother J. M. Young to take charge of Nebraska City Mission temporarily, at a salary of fifty dollars quarterly. Brother W. B. Warrington was afterwards employed on Peru Mission. Brothers Lamb and Warrington served out their year, and brother Young served part of the year. At the end of the year, brother Lamb not desiring to serve longer, arrangements were made for brother Mayall, of the North Illinois Conference, to take charge of Lincoln Mission. On account of severe family affliction, he found it impossible to go at once to the field, and meanwhile, the brethren at Lincoln became discouraged on account of an embarrassing church debt, and notified the



to this, as well as to the taking of the missionary collections required by the Discipline, I regret that the language of my predecessor, in his report four years ago, will apply in too many cases. He then said: "In a great many instances, where our people have a respectable portion of wealth, \* \* the subject has not been brought before them, and, as a consequence, our church members and Sabbath Schools, in those places, are without even an opportunity to aid in this great moral enterprise. While, in other instances, the subject has been brought before the people in a cold, uninteresting way, and but little is realized." While this is still true to a great extent, I am pleased to say, that great progress has been made in overcoming this difficulty.

Three years ago it was common for a large proportion of the pastors, in many of the Conferences, to come to their sessions without having made any attempt whatever to take up missionary collections; and their character would pass without the slightest admonition for this neglect of duty. While it is still true that too many neglect this duty, the Conferences recognize the delinquency, and strongly reprove it. There is still room for great improvement in the feelings and actions of our pastors and members in reference to our missionary work; but so distinctly marked is the tendency in this direction, that we may look hopefully forward to the time when we, as a Church, will fully recognize the claims which Christ and a perishing world have upon us. It is essentially necessary to educate our ministry and membership to proper views, and a sense of responsibility in respect to the missionary cause.

Our Church is making rapid progress in building up local enterprises. New churches are being erected—many of them at considerable cost. Our ministers are receiving better salaries than ever before, and are more promptly paid. Our membership is rapidly increasing in numbers and wealth, and we cannot longer justify ourselves in neglecting a cause which the other denominations have long since placed in the front rank of Christian enterprise. The failures and discouragements which have been experienced in this department of our Church, are only such as have been met and overcome by others; and if, like others, we are determined to press forward, we, too, shall overcome them. In some respects our missionary interests labor under greater disadvantages than any of the other general interests of the Church. The College, Publishing House, and Ministerial Education Boards have financial resources, or special contributions, upon which to rely as sources of revenue. The Board of Missions is dependent entirely upon the annual collections from the churches, or personal contributions from such as may choose to give. We have not, as a Board, accomplished what we had desired and hoped to do. In some of our cherished hopes we have been disappointed. Yet, I trust that, earnestly and honestly, we have done what we could. Others might, or might not, have done better under the circumstances.

Believing it essentially necessary, first of all, to get the missionary work thoroughly organized in all the Conferences, and

was deemed advisable to suspend, temporarily, that part of the enterprise. Meanwhile the work was continued in the chapel, until failing health compelled brother Ellis to suspend his labors, and seek for health in a more favorable climate. [Since deceased. —ED.] And so far as the Board of Missions is concerned, Adrian mission is in a state of suspense, and its spiritual interests are cared for by the professors and agents of Adrian College.

During the first year of our administration, financial aid was given to three brethren in the southern portion of our work. One hundred dollars was paid to brother R. R. Brooksheir, in North Carolina; the same amount to brother W. J. Witcher, in East Tennessee and North Georgia; and fifty dollars to brother Mills, a colored brother, laboring among the freedmen in North Carolina. In view of our limited means, and the somewhat intangible shape of the work they were doing, appropriations in that direction were discontinued. These brethren were, no doubt, accomplishing good, but the circumstances surrounding them compelled them to cover too large a territory.

The subject of Foreign Missions has also been taken into consideration, and, for the first time in many years, a practical attempt has been made. In a small way, it is true, yet a beginning has been inaugurated, which, if followed up, may yet result in great good. Availing ourselves of the generous offer of "The Woman's Union Missionary Society of America for Heathen Lands," to furnish us the facilities of their mission schools in India, in which native girls are being educated for missionaries and bible readers among the heathen women of that country, our Board has made an appropriation of two hundred dollars for this department of mission work. Forty dollars of this amount, furnished by the Connellsville, Pa., Sunday School, Pittsburgh District, has already been forwarded and acknowledged by the treasurer of that society. An appeal has been made, by special circular, to the Sabbath Schools of the Church, to furnish the means for this work.

Reference has already been made to the fact that the Board has provided for organizing Sunday School Societies in aid of the Missionary cause. In view of securing the assistance of the pastors and Sabbath School officers in organizing local societies, a constitution was prepared and sent out to all pastors, and as many Sabbath School officers as possible. Accompanying these, circulars were sent, urging the pastors to make an effort to secure this object, and report any organization effected to the Corresponding Secretary. I regret to say that very little attention seems to have been paid to the matter. Except where I have given personal attention to it, little has been done in this connection. So far as I have been able to reach the schools personally, I have found no difficulty in getting the officers, teachers and scholars to take an active interest in the cause, and organize societies under the constitution furnished by the Board. If we fail to secure the co-operation of the youth and children of the Church in this important enterprise, it will be simply because we neglect to afford them proper instruction and the opportunity to aid us. In respect



It is not amiss, perhaps, for your Secretary to say that he has, since the first of September, 1871, devoted his entire time and labor to the interests of the missionary cause. Most of his time has been devoted to visiting the Annual Conferences, and the several circuits, stations and missions, in different Conference districts, and aiding the pastors in taking their collections and subscriptions. He has, from time to time, as directed by the Board and as seemed necessary, sent out circulars, appealing to the pastors and people to aid us in our work. By reference to the financial part of this report, it will be seen that his services have been rendered at a compensation far below that allowed by the other Boards to their agents and secretaries. After adding to the amount of the salary which he has received during his term of service, the entire amount of his traveling expenses, including railroad fares, hotel bills, &c., together with all his expenditures for printing, stationery, postage, and all incidental expenses, the sum is less, by nearly three hundred dollars, than the salary alone of the other general agents, during the same period. This difference was partly caused by the voluntary offer of the Secretary to render his services at as little expense to the Church as possible, and partly by the reduction of his salary by the action of the Board. From his own conviction that the cause in which he was engaged would suffer damage, should he cease to give it his full time and attention, and the fact that a number of the Conferences had, from time to time, expressed their approbation of the course of the Board in directing the Secretary to devote his whole time to the interests of the missionary cause, the Secretary did not feel at liberty to retire from the field, and hence determined, at whatever sacrifice to himself, to continue his labors to the end of his official term. In doing this, he has been acting from a conviction that the best interests of the Church demanded it. The Secretary, as well as the entire Board, have prosecuted the work entrusted to their care under many embarrassments and a sense of great responsibility, and only regret that more has not been accomplished. It has been our earnest purpose and effort to secure a thorough organization of our missionary enterprise, to save, if possible, what remains of the work already begun, and enter, more fully, the field opening so invitingly before us. We have felt that a missionary spirit, and active missionary effort, is absolutely indispensable to our prosperity, if not to our existence, as a branch of the Church of Christ. It would be doing injustice to our churches and congregations to suppose that, with proper instruction and opportunity, they will fail to respond to our appeals to them for the means to carry on this work with a liberality equal to that of the other churches, who are doing more than ours, simply because they have been more thoroughly educated to it. With means, piety and intelligence equal—in proportion to numbers—to that of any church, we can and must accept our full share of responsibility, and respond to the wants of a perishing world.

With the earnest prayer that the Great Head of the Church may baptize us anew with the Holy Ghost, and inspire us as never before, to "go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," this report is respectfully submitted.

C. H. WILLIAMS,  
Cor. Sec'y. Board of Missions.

secure, as far as practicable, the co-operation of all the pastors, the Corresponding Secretary has labored toward this end, and it is believed that much good has been accomplished in this respect.

The General Conference is competent to take such action as may be deemed necessary to further the interests of the missionary work of the Church. I would suggest, however, that I think the action of the last General Conference was in the right direction, and the plan adopted by that body embraces substantially the principles upon which success may be attained, and that no important changes, in this respect, should be made.

The following statement, taken from the books of the Treasurer of the Board, will show the receipts and expenditures of the Board, from May, 1871, to May, 1875:

### RECEIPTS FROM MAY, 1871, TO MAY, 1875.

DISTRICTS.	AMOUNT.
Pittsburgh.....	\$ 54 00
Ohio.....	1,538 54
Muskingum.....	402 13
North Illinois.....	960 25
Indiana.....	479 67
North Indiana.....	258 24
South Illinois.....	143 65
Iowa.....	119 00
North Iowa.....	129 65
Michigan.....	185 92
West Michigan.....	75 61
Onondaga.....	145 75
New York.....	202 83
New Jersey.....	185 72
Genesee.....	79 53
Missouri.....	6 75
North Missouri.....	2 46
Nebraska.....	20 04
Kansas.....	3 55
From Treasurer of old Board.....	.....
Total.....	\$5,041 23

### EXPENDITURES FROM MAY, 1871, TO MAY, 1875.

Traveling expenses Corresponding Seretary—	
Railroad fares.....	\$996 21
Hotel bills and lunches.....	162 20
Printing and stationery.....	124 80
Postage and express charges.....	116 56
Expenses of convening the Board.....	.....
Salary of Corresponding Secretary—three years and nine months.....	2,840 00
Total.....	\$4,239 77
Balance over expenses.....	801 46



## STATEMENT OF TREASURER OF BOARD OF MISSIONS,

*For four years, ending March 1, 1875.*

Balance on hand.....	\$134 18
Received from Districts.....	\$6,689 13
Interest and Exchange.....	141 43

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 6,830 56

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 \$6,964 74

## DISBURSEMENTS.

To Missions.....	\$1,940 00
Corresponding Secretary.....	2,849 63
Traveling .....	1,390 06
Printing and Stationery.....	161 19
Postage, Express and Exchange.....	127 38
Medals.....	316 00
Certificates .....	69 00

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 6,853 26

Balance May 1, 1875.....	\$111 48
Due for striking Medals, worth.....	150 00

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 \$261 48

Very respectfully submitted to General Conference of Methodist Church, convened at Princeton, Ill.

JOHN H. CLANEY, *Treas.*

## REPORT OF BOARD OF MISSIONS.

The Corresponding Secretary having made a full and very able report of his and the Board's proceedings for the past four years, it will be unnecessary for us to enter into details, further than to state, as follows:

So soon as practicable after the adjournment of the General Conference of 1871, the members of the Board elect met and organized, and adopted rules for their government. In due time a charter was obtained, and a constitution for the formation and government of auxiliary societies adopted. In September, 1871, an appeal for aid came from Nebraska City, and brother C. H. Williams, Corresponding Secretary, was instructed to visit Nebraska Conference, and ascertain its condition, needs, etc.; at the same time, the Corresponding Secretary was instructed to devote the whole of his time to the work of Missions, in visiting Annual Conferences and churches, making addresses, and collecting funds to enable the Board to carry out the objects of its appointment. Two hundred dollars were appropriated to Ne-

RECEIPTS OF BOARD OF MISSIONS,  
*From Districts and other sources.*

Received from	May 1, '72.	May 1, '73.	May 1, '74.	May 1, '75.	Aggregate.
New York Dis't...	\$110 00	\$64 81	\$61 82	\$18 55	\$255 18
Onondaga.....	45 00	.....	89 75	54 00	188 75
Genesee.....	.....	.....	45 26	34 27	79 53
New Jersey.....	24 95	59 74	75 06	28 12	187 87
North Carolina....	1 00	.....	.....	.....	1 00
Pittsburgh.....	98 70	385 79	391 47	399 12	1275 08
Muskingum.....	313 68	66 50	99 45	20 20	499 83
Ohio.....	236 22	395 38	454 58	319 22	1405 40
Michigan.....	12 00	97 33	44 08	61 12	214 53
West Michigan....	40 61	15 00	25 00	1 50	82 11
Indiana.....	89 62	140 28	105 00	81 91	416 81
North Indiana....	40 56	42 45	150 81	92 23	326 05
North Illinois.....	414 97	305 61	300 10	208 37	1229 05
South Illinois.....	39 25	67 88	64 00	34 62	205 75
Iowa.....	10 00	6 50	48 27	61 23	126 00
North Iowa.....	12 00	44 03	40 15	43 47	139 65
Nebraska.....	16 04	5 10	.....	.....	21 14
Kansas.....	3 55	.....	.....	.....	3 55
Missouri.....	4 00	3 00	2 75	12 10	21 85
North Missouri....	.....	.....	.....	6 40	6 40
Minnesota.....	3 60	.....	.....	.....	3 60
Interest and Exch.	20 16	40 81	40 59	39 87	141 43
Total.....	\$1535 91	\$1740 21	\$2038 14	\$1516 30	\$6830 56

DISBURSEMENTS OF BOARD OF MISSIONS,  
*To Missions and for Expenses.*

Paid to					
Lincoln City Miss.	\$75 00	\$225 00	.....	\$850 00	\$1150 00
Nebraska.....	.....	150 00	.....	.....	150 00
Peru.....	50 00	150 00	.....	.....	200 00
East Tenn. & Ga...	25 00	75 00	.....	.....	100 00
North Carolina....	37 50	112 50	.....	.....	150 00
Adrian.....	.....	.....	150 00	.....	150 00
Japan.....	.....	.....	.....	40 00	40 00
Corresponding Sec.	361 05	753 58	1050 00	685 00	2849 63
Travel'g. Cor. Sec.	337 85	327 22	286 18	209 61	1160 86
Other.....	53 20	86 50	16 50	73 00	229 20
Print'g & Stat'y...	23 51	51 08	40 65	45 95	161 19
Post., Exp. & Exch.	24 84	24 07	42 97	35 50	127 38
Medals.....	.....	180 00	136 00	.....	316 00
Certificates.....	.....	.....	52 00	17 00	69 00
Total.....	\$987 95	\$2134 95	\$1774 30	\$1956 06	\$6853 26



*Resolved*, That the Board regards this request of brother Ellis as not in harmony with good faith on his part, and that the granting of said request, with our present knowledge of the case, would not be in keeping with good faith on our part with Lincoln Mission.

*Resolved*, That in view of all the facts, as now known to us, we cannot at present release him from his engagement to serve one year.

In April following, Mr. Ellis renewed his resignation in the following words, addressed to the President of the Board:

"For good and sufficient reasons, I hereby renew my resignation as pastor of the First Methodist Church, Lincoln, Nebraska, to take effect from this date, April 23d, 1875."

The Board, after maturely considering the matter, on the 11th day of May, passed the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the action of Rev. J. W. Ellis, in resigning and in abandoning the work committed into his hands by this Board, and which was accepted by him with a full knowledge of the condition of the Church in Lincoln, is regarded by the Board as a palpable breach of faith, and therefore, that we cannot consistently, with our ideas of justice to the mission, to ourselves, and to the Methodist Church, consent to accept of his resignation, nor release him from his obligation to the Board, unless he refunds the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars, that being the amount paid to him to meet the expense of his removal to Lincoln.

We are thus particular in giving this statement, that all may see that the ill treatment toward Lincoln Mission, by J. W. Ellis, meets with the Board's unqualified reprobation.

W. COLLIER,

*President.*

D. JONES,

*Secretary.*

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

Your committee, to whom was referred the cause of Missions, beg leave to report that, after a careful examination of the Discipline and the law relative to the Board of Missions, we are unanimously of the opinion that statutory provisions by this body will greatly strengthen and aid the Board in raising missionary money, and we therefore recommend that to the first paragraph of section 6, part 4 of Discipline, page 53, be added the following:

1st. The Board of Missions shall consist of nine members, to be elected by this Conference, three of whom shall be designated as an executive committee, with power to do business for and in the name of the Board, subject, however, to revision by the Board, and the Corresponding Secretary shall be ex-officio a member of said Board; provided, also, that no Conference shall be repre-

braska City Mission, and one hundred and fifty dollars were forwarded to J. M. Young, the missionary, who did not serve out his time there. The mission ceased to be officially connected with the Board, and subsequently, the church property was sold, as we have been incidentally informed; but the Board has never received any official report from the mission as to the disposition of the property, and the disbandment of the mission. We think the missions established by your Board should be required, peremptorily, to give a detailed account of their condition, whether prosperous or adverse.

The Corresponding Secretary, by action of the Board, was allowed, as compensation for his labor for one year, one thousand dollars and traveling expenses. Subsequently, under a pressing necessity, the Board was admonished to restrict the labors of the Secretary, so far as traveling was concerned, as also to reduce his salary. This action was not because of any want of confidence in the industry or integrity of the Corresponding Secretary. The Board had no cause of complaint of his want of zeal and perseverance in the work assigned him by the General Conference, but because the income from his efforts and the efforts of others failed to realize an amount sufficient to justify the continuance of the compensation stipulated for the first year.

Brother Williams, in his efforts, no doubt, did as well as anyone else could have done, under the same circumstances. Our missionary work was literally prostrated. Many persons who had previously contributed to the cause, became discouraged and lost their missionary fervor. Our success in the several fields established by the Board, had not been such as to strengthen the confidence of previous patrons; hence, the work of bringing up the Church to the essential standard of liberality, was not an easy task. If brother Williams was not successful to the extent that was expected, it was because the people did not respond to his appeal for means to carry on our missionary work; and yet, by comparison of the financial statement for the past four years, with the report of the previous four years, our receipts have been in excess of over twelve hundred dollars; so there is some progress.

Lincoln Mission. It will be seen by the report of the Treasurer that, during the existence of the present Board, the sum of one thousand one hundred and fifty dollars was appropriated to the Lincoln Mission. This mission made an appeal to the Board for a loan to enable them to pay off the remaining debt on their church. Aside from the difficulty of obtaining a loan, the security being too far off, the Board had doubts as to their right to appropriate money from their treasury to any other purpose than the support of missionaries employed by them. Because of the refusal of the Board to loan the amount required to pay the debt on the church, Rev. J. W. Ellis, who had been duly appointed missionary to Lincoln, offered his resignation, and asked to be released from his engagement. The Board declined to accept his resignation, and passed the following resolution:



for the missionary cause quite small enough; nay, we want this Conference to say it can be raised.

We have examined the very able report of the present Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Missions; we have also examined the certificates for life membership in the Missionary Society, and also for Sabbath Schools, and we suggest to the Board to be elected, that a certificate much more saleable, and one that would give much more satisfaction to the Church, might be prepared. We regret that a more complete report could not, under the circumstances, be made; and while we must say the success of the Board and its Secretary has not been all we hoped for, yet we recognize the fact that their efforts were not in vain. And in view of the fact that a field of usefulness is opening up in the West, to which our children by hundreds are moving, who will have to find homes in other denominations or live out of the Church, it is to be hoped that every minister and layman will awake to this best interest of the Church. After careful thought on this great missionary work, we are of the opinion that the minister who does nothing in this great work, fails to do his duty to the Church.

J. M. FLOOD,  
*Chairman.*

#### SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT.

Your Committee on Missions submit the following supplemental report:

We recognize the importance of establishing Foreign Missions, and we fondly hope the day is not far distant when we shall be able to sustain Foreign Missions.

We have carefully considered the importance of sustaining our mission work in Nebraska, and especially at Lincoln, and the Board is hereby directed to give attention to Lincoln at an early date. And we most earnestly hope that the Michigan Conference, with the aid of the Missionary Society, will be able, at an early date, to establish a Church at Adrian. It must be apparent to all that our educational interests, at that point, demand a most earnest effort to establish a church where the students and patrons of the college, who live in Adrian, may worship God within the pale of our Church.

Your committee beg leave to name Springfield, Ohio, as the place where the Board shall be located. We would further state that they have examined the able report of Dr. Wm. Collier, which has been presented to the Conference, and recommend that it be placed on file. And we have examined the exhibit and report of the Treasurer, John H. Claney, which is complete in form, and which should also be placed on file.

Your committee respectfully asks that the Conference name the Secretary and members of said Board. All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. M. FLOOD,  
*Chairman.*

sented by more than one member on the Board, excepting the Conference where the Board is located may have three members.

2d. The Board shall meet and organize so soon as practicable after their election; fix the amount of missionary money to be raised by the whole Church the ensuing year, apportioning the same among the several Conferences, according to their ability to pay.

3d. The several Conferences, at their first sessions thereafter, shall apportion the same among their several charges, according to their ability to pay.

4th. All appropriations made by the Board, within the bounds of a Conference, shall be made to the Conference, and by the Conference shall be apportioned to its charges, according to their necessities.

5th. The several Conferences, at their next session, shall create a Missionary Board, auxiliary to the parent Board, with a Corresponding Secretary, to whom each pastor shall report, quarterly, the amount of missionary money raised by him. And the Secretary of the auxiliary Board shall make a condensed quarterly report to the Secretary of the parent society, who shall also furnish an official report of all moneys received from each Conference, semi-annually.

6th. Missionary money appropriated to Conferences shall be paid quarterly, to the Treasurer of the auxiliary Board, and by him paid out as the Conference may have directed.

7th. Each Conference shall, in all cases, appropriate missionary money to its charges, and not to its ministers.

8th. The several Conferences shall, at their next sessions, divide their territories into districts, to be known as missionary districts, and each district shall hold one or more missionary meetings annually, and the Annual Conferences shall hold their members responsible for their attendance at these meetings.

9th. The several Conferences shall hold their members to a faithful observance of these statutes, and hold suspended the character of each pastor who fails to take up a missionary collection, by subscription or otherwise, at each of his regular appointments, until satisfactory reasons are rendered therefor.

10th. The officers of the Board shall consist of a President, Secretary and Treasurer, whose duties shall be the same as those usually performed by like officers, and the Board shall meet once a year, or oftener, on a call by a majority of the members of the Board.

Your committee are unanimously of the opinion, that the several Conferences can take hold of the missionary cause and create a fund for the spread of the Gospel, such as every minister and member of the Church will be proud of, and we venture to suggest to the Board hereafter to be elected, that as the coming year will usher in the nation's jubilee, a year of thanksgiving and centennial offerings, that it be made a year of extraordinary success to our beloved Church. And we trust that not only the Board, but that every member in the Church will sustain us, when we say, that one dollar for each member in the Church is an offering



It is conceded by all that this is an age of progress, and that an educated ministry is demanded in the nature of our economy. If we have an educated ministry to serve an educated people, then we must have places of worship, and if these two great blessings are obtained, they must be sustained. So it must be apparent to all, that the Educational Board, the Missionary Board, and the Church Extension Board, must be auxiliaries to each other. They are almost an inseparable trinity. Your committee most earnestly desires the Church to take higher ground, and appeal to the whole people, doubting not that the same generous hand that has been extended to other denominations, will be extended to us.

We therefore recommend, that to the 4th section of part fourth of Discipline, page 53, be added the following:

A Board consisting of nine members, with a Corresponding Secretary, to be elected by this Conference, to be known as the Board of Church Extension of the Methodist Church, be and is hereby created, and shall be governed by the same rules that govern the Board of Missions in the collection of money.

All appropriations of money shall be in the form of a loan, at not less than six per cent. per annum, for the erection of church houses. *Provided*, that the Board may finally donate the amount so loaned.

All loans shall be made to the trustees of the property on which the money is loaned, and first mortgages given for the payment thereof. *Provided, also*, that no loan shall be made where the amount loaned does not liquidate all prior claims, and in no case for more than one-third the cash value of the property at the time.

Your committee submits the following supplemental report:

The Board of Church Extension shall be located at Princeton, Ill., and we respectfully nominate the following Board: J. R. Mulvane, P. J. Strong, J. M. Mayall, T. Kelly, P. F. Rems-burgh, A. H. Widney, James Ross, W. H. Jordan, G. L. Taylor.

L. C. PACE,  
*Chairman.*

## DOCUMENT D.

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### CHURCH EXTENSION.

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Your committee, to whom was committed the work of drafting a plan for the organization of a Board, to be known as the Board of Church Extension of the Methodist Church, beg leave to report as follows:

For years past we have seen and felt the great need of church houses. We have often witnessed the happy results of houses secured by aid from other churches through their Church Extension Societies; and we have often, as a Church, stood by and seen other denominations build homes for their societies, in almost every city, town and village in the West, while the people were equally willing to help us. While the agricultural and mineral resources of the West are being rapidly developed, and towns and cities are springing up all over the West by a heavy emigration from the Middle and Eastern States, as well as from Continental Europe, it must appear to all that that denomination that provides and erects homes for her societies, will most largely share the harvest of coming years.

*Whereas*, Our people have been compelled to yield the field for want of timely aid, and forever leave our positions in the centers of commerce, when we might have stood side by side with other Christian bodies, bearing equal honor in the great work of evangelizing the world; and

*Whereas*, The great American heart is now beating in unison with the nation's call for a centennial offering, befitting the gratitude of the American people for civil and religious liberty enjoyed in this great republic; and

*Whereas*, There are, we trust, many wealthy men who would prefer to erect a living monument to the glory of God than to make large donations to uncertain enterprises, we, your committee, earnestly believe that this centennial year is an opportune time to replenish the treasuries of the Church, and we fondly hope this General Conference, to whom the whole Church is looking for direction and leadership, will so energize the Church in all her parts, that she may gather herself up and struggle to the front, present her claims to the people, and finally be crowned with success.

We beg leave to say, as a Church we need enlarged views of our field of usefulness; we need the quickening power and facilities for gathering the offerings that an unconverted world, as well as Christian men and women, are willing to make for the spread of the gospel and its elevating influences.



in Princeton—brothers L. W. Bates, of Maryland, A. C. Harris, of North Carolina, and Oliver Lowther and George Nestor, of West Virginia. For the tender and gracious words of these beloved brethren, we are deeply grateful, and shall remember what they have communicated as we remember the precious words of home, and kindred, and heaven.

We are happy, however, to announce that brother Chas. W. Button, a representative layman from Lynchburg, Virginia, is now on his way to this Conference, at the earnest request of brethren in the M. P. Church and ours, as a messenger of fraternity from that body; and we respectfully ask this Conference to appoint a special committee of response, consisting of brothers W. R. Parsons and T. H. Colhouer.

We also recommend the appointment of Fraternal Messengers to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, visitation from which we now enjoy, in the presence of the honored senior Bishop, E. S. Janes, and we suggest the names of brothers A. H. Bassett and John Cowl as our representatives in General Conference to respond to any fraternal addresses from that branch.

Having received a most cordial letter from brother T. O. Summers, D. D., editor of the *Nashville Christian Advocate*, the official organ of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, who, in behalf of Bishop McTyeire and others, asks that this General Conference appoint messengers to the next General Conference of that branch, and remembering the courtesy of that Church at its last General Conference toward our own, we recommend the propriety of such action.

We recommend, still further, the appointment of a Fraternal Visitation to the next National Council of Congregational Churches, since that body appointed such delegation to this General Conference, and most considerate and Christian fellowship has been expressed to us as a Church from that association. In the event of the non-appearance of the Congregationalist visitors, we request that brother G. B. McElroy be appointed to communicate our fraternal greetings by writing.

We venture to suggest the propriety of a fraternal visit to the General Conference of the United Brethren in Christ, a kindred branch of the Methodist family, whose churches abound in the territory traveled by our ministers, and with whom a nearer acquaintance would be mutually advantageous.

And last, but not of least importance, we would recommend the appointment of a Fraternal Messenger to the Conferences of the Primitive and New Connection Methodists of Great Britain. Those bodies are similar to our own in essential points, and a better knowledge of our economy disseminated among them would secure to us a larger share of the immigrant families as they come across the water. Believing that brother Edward Sellon, of the North Illinois Conference, is qualified to represent our polity and interests in such mission, we suggest his name as the foreign messenger, provided the churches shall adopt some systematic method of raising the means to cover the necessary expense. The slight

## DOCUMENT E.

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### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL RELATIONS.

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Believing that the gospel is a grand affirmation of truth, and that Christ's power is positive and affectional, we would enter, as a Church, more fully into the spirit of Christian fraternity. The age demands unity of evangelical effort. The forces of sin, however diverse in outward name, are one in hostile purpose toward human souls; and it behooves Christians everywhere, and at all times, to combine their efforts, if they would accomplish the greater works which Jesus conditions on simple faith in Himself.

The happy results of union in Christian work are apparent now, as seldom since the day of Pentecost, where believers assembled with one accord in one place, and when, suddenly, the witnessing of divine power was the appearing of "tongues of fire," and when the people were filled with the Holy Ghost. By the united agencies of the Christian Church, including the labors of laymen as well as ministers, and by the simple telling of "the old, old story," Great Britain is to-day awakened as never since Wesley's time; and by the same power, and in the same spirit, the multitudes of our own country, and of the whole world, are to be redeemed from sin.

Believing, further, that, as a denomination, we can be more loyal to the Master, and more useful to our fellow-men, by a straight-forward course—by preaching the word, by orderly fellowship, by carefully training our children, and by cultivating friendly relations with all sects which may differ from us in mere ecclesiastical polity or doctrinal interpretation—than by emphatic protests and criticisms touching the methods of other denominations, we would, therefore, suggest to our ministers and people the largest charity toward all who honor Christ, and especially toward those who are of the household of Methodism.

In view of such fraternity, we recommend the appointment of messengers by this General Conference to the next General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, to meet in Abingdon, Virginia, in May, 1878. We make this suggestion all the more freely from the fact that kind and hearty greetings have been communicated to us by the Fraternal Messengers appointed in Lynchburg, last May, and whom we had fondly hoped to see



## DOCUMENT F.

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### CAMP MEETINGS.

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*Whereas*, The interest in camp meetings, that characterized early Methodism in this country, and aided the Church so effectually in spreading the gospel among the needy, has greatly declined among us within the last few years; and

*Whereas*, Experience has taught us, that when we let go a known agency for good, we, to that extent, diminish our power for usefulness; therefore,

*Resolved*, That this General Conference recommend the organization of a General Conference Camp Meeting Association, of the Methodist Church. The objects and aims of which shall be, so far as practicable, to aid new and destitute fields, and to proclaim the glad news of a full and free salvation to all, through the Blood of the Lamb.

And further, this association shall, when requested to do so, render such aid as it may be able, to local camp meeting associations, or Annual Conference camp meetings. In such meetings, the General Association or its members shall be regarded only as helpers, except when specially requested to take control. And we hereby recommend the several Annual Conferences to hold camp meetings within their several boundaries.

E. A. WHEAT,  
*Chairman.*

tax of one cent per member and a half cent per scholar in our Sunday Schools, would make an ample fund for such purpose, and if this part of our report meet the approval of this Conference, we ask that such assessment be authorized for such purpose. All of which is respectfully submitted.

ALEXANDER CLARK,  
*Chairman.*

### SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT.

Committee on Fraternal Visitations still further report:

*Resolved*, That Rev. D. Trueman and Rev. P. J. Strong be appointed Fraternal Messengers to attend the ensuing General Conference of the United Brethren in Christ.

*Resolved*, That Rev. J. M. Mayall and Rev. George B. McElroy be appointed Fraternal Messengers to the United Methodist Church of Canada, to visit that body at its next annual or its next General Conference, as they may prefer.

*Resolved*, That Rev. A. Clark and Mr. T. J. Finch be appointed fraternal delegates to the next General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, to meet in Atlanta, Georgia, in May, 1878.



that in all cases, if delinquent persons will make due acknowledgments, and be reconciled to the aggrieved parties, the charges may be waived.

Your committee also ask that the present rule, commencing on page 33 of Discipline, be numbered Rule II; and we recommend the striking out of line six, these five words, "to hear all complaints and," and insert this paragraph in item one, (1) page 33, immediately following the closing words of line 14: When any person of the Church is reported to the leaders' meeting, the pastor or the president, as walking disorderly, the proper authorities shall appoint a committee of inquiry, as provided for in Rule I, item 2, and if, upon due inquiry, the committee are satisfied that the person so accused is bringing a reproach upon the cause of God, they shall so report, as provided in item 3, Rule I, and the pastor, (if the accused be a layman, a local minister or preacher,) or president, (if the accused be a member of the Annual Conference,) shall admonish the offender. If the person admonished will, by public acknowledgment, where the wrong has been public, render satisfaction to the Church, or if the offence has been of a private character, and he will be reconciled to the aggrieved party by confessing his fault privately, (see James v. 16.) then no further notice shall be taken of the case. But in default of such satisfaction or reconciliation, the charges shall lie."

We also recommend this addition to the closing sentence of item 1, page 33, "*Provided*, that whenever the Church, the judicial committee, or district committee, find it necessary to appoint a person to preside, such presiding officer shall appoint a prosecutor; *provided further*, that nothing herein shall be so construed as to preclude persons from preferring charges in Quarterly or Annual Conferences, (as therein provided,) where any parties are believed to be guilty of gross sins."

We recommend the striking out the word "pastor" and insert "presiding officer" in line 6, item 3, page 34; also, add to the last sentence of this item, "and he shall transmit a true copy thereof, in case of appeal to the Church, if it be a lay member; to the Quarterly Conference, if it be a local minister or preacher, or to the Annual Conference, if it be a member thereof, except as provided in the rules of Quarterly and Annual Conferences, the presiding officer shall always appoint the prosecutor."

We further recommend that the words, "or by the complainant," in lines 5 and 6, item 4, page 34, be stricken out, and that item 5 be so changed as to read as follows: "When charges against any lay member are placed in the hands of the pastor or such person as is substituted for the pastor, (if such charges are not waived, as provided for in item 1, Rule II,) he shall proceed to try the case before the judicial committee; *provided*, if there be no judicial committee, or the Church neglects to appoint a committee of trial, then the presiding officer shall appoint. If charges by a committee of inquiry, or the Quarterly Conference, against a local minister or preacher, be placed in the hands of the pastor or such other minister as shall be appointed to act in the stead of the pastor, except the charges are raised, as provided in

## DOCUMENT G.

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### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES.

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Your Committee on Administrative Rules, to whom was referred certain questions proposed by pastors of the Missouri and Kansas Conferences, beg leave to report as follows:

1. Has a local church the right to legislate, or make rules of its own for the reception of members?

*Answer.* They have not the right to legislate, but may make such prudential rules as will not violate the Discipline.

2. Has a pastor of the Methodist Church the right, where there is a permanent organization, to waive the rules of Discipline, or to adopt a plan of his own in the reception of members?

*Answer.* No; he has not the right to waive the rules of Discipline, or make rules of his own; yet he is at liberty to use such discretion as prudence demands, provided that he shall not, in so doing, violate any positive rule of Discipline.

3. Can a pastor of a circuit act lawfully as chairman in the trial of a minister belonging to an Annual Conference?

*Answer.* No; unless he be appointed by the proper authorities.

Your committee would further report a new administrative rule, to be known as Rule 1, Committee of Inquiry. Its authorization, jurisdiction and duties defined.

1. If a rumor, prejudicial to the moral character of any member of the Methodist Church shall exist, it shall be the duty of the proper authority to appoint a committee of inquiry, of not more than five, nor less than three.

2. If the party complained of be a layman in a station, the leaders' meeting shall appoint the committee. In circuits or missions, if the party complained of be a layman, a local minister or preacher, the pastor shall appoint the committee. If the party complained of be a member, or a licentiate member, of the Annual Conference, the president shall appoint; *provided*, if there be no pastor, the church shall appoint, and if the president be the party complained of, the chairman of the district committee shall appoint said committee of inquiry.

3. The committee shall make due inquiry, and if, in their judgment, the case requires judicial investigation, they shall so report to the authority which constituted the committee, *i. e.*, to the leaders' meeting, the pastor, the president, or such persons as may be appointed to represent these appointing powers, and the committee shall make out charges and specifications, based upon the facts elicited by their inquiries; *provided*, that if the rumor has no just foundation, the committee will so report; *provided further*,



## DOCUMENT H.

### LITERARY INSTITUTIONS.

#### REPORTS OF GENERAL AGENTS.

Exhibit of J. S. Thrap, General Agent of the Board of Trustees of Adrian College, Methodist Church, of all receipts and disbursements by him from May 1st, 1871, to October 23d, 1873; and also, N. R. Swift, General Agent from October 23d, 1873, to May 10th, 1875, including all moneys collected and subscriptions taken, made to the General Conference held in the city of Princeton, Illinois, commencing May 19, 1875.

#### DR.

To cash on special subscriptions for debts, dated July 1st, 1873.....	\$7,404 87
" endowment collected.....	3,040 20
" interest collected.....	4,467 21
" cash for land sold (La Porte, Ind.).....	448 00
" " from other sources.....	5,785 26
	<hr/>
	\$21,145 54
" " collected on subscription for local improvements.....	750 00
" cash from Assistant Treasurer, (G. B. McElroy,) including local receipts from June, 1874, to May, 1875.....	11,084 75
	<hr/>
	11,834 75
Total amount of receipts.....	\$32,980 29
Total amount secured by Agents since July 1st, 1871, as work performed.....	14,899 50
Total amount of receipts and disbursements by J. S. Thrap, from May 1st, 1871, to Oct. 23, 1873.....	32,256 87
	<hr/>
Total amount of receipts and disbursements from May 1st, 1871, to May 10, 1875.....	\$80,136 66

item 1, Rule II, said officiating minister shall proceed to summon, of the peers of the accused, a committee of trial, of not less than three members."

We still further recommend that item 6, page 35, be so changed as to read as follows: "Charges against any member or licensee of the Annual Conference, as provided in item 5, shall be placed in the hands of the president, who shall (except the charges are waived, as provided in other cases) cite the accused to appear before a committee of at least three ministers or preachers, which he shall select, and, acting as chairman, he shall proceed to try the case; *provided*, if the president be the accused party, the chairman of the district committee shall appoint the committee of inquiry, and if charges are preferred, he shall appoint a minister who shall fulfill all the duties of a presiding officer, as in the trial of other cases."

We recommend that item 10, page 36, be stricken out entire, and that the succeeding items be brought up so as to harmonize in numbers.

We further recommend that the following be added to the closing line of item 12, as now numbered, page 36, "If any minister or preacher withdraws from the Church after he has been cited to trial, and during the pendency of said charges, he shall thereby forfeit his license or ordination papers."

Your committee further report, in response to instructions from this body, directing said committee to report an item of Discipline, giving children an appropriate relation to the Church, that an item be inserted in the Discipline, page 30, section 3, at the close of item 1 of that section, as follows:

2. "The children of our members and those under their guardianship, shall be recognized as enjoying probationary privileges, and held as candidates for full membership when converted, and should be put into classes as such, with the consent of their parents or guardians."

Items 2 and 3 of said section to be 3 and 4.

J. H. LUSE,  
Chairman.





## AMOUNT OF DEBTS.

Lenawee County Sav. Bank, money loaned....	\$6,000 00
Interest due on the above.....	200 00
Ohio Conference Preachers' Aid Society.....	2,300 00
Interest due on the above.....	185 00
Note of G. B. McElroy.....	1,468 00
“ Mrs. S. R. Gilkey.....	343 00
“ I. W. McKeever.....	256 00
“ J. B. Walker.....	500 00
Due N. R. Swift.....	1,948 00
“ H. A. Hobbs.....	200 00
“ Agents' salaries.....	600 00
“ Professors.....	1,500 00

Whole amount of liabilities.....\$15,500 00

## AMOUNT OF ASSETS.

Special subscriptions uncollected.....	\$4,996 00
Interest due, which is reliable.....	3,000 00
Real estate transferred with the college.....	2,000 00
Notes for payment of debts.....	5,500 00

Whole amount.....\$15,496 00

The amount of local receipts, viz.: tuition, room rent,  
etc., as reported by G. B. McElroy and A. H.  
Lowrie, from September 1, 1871, to May 10, 1875, \$14,071 43

## CR.

By cash	to Professors.....	\$7,561 11
"	to Agents' salaries.....	2,324 43
"	to traveling expenses of Agents.....	1,087 07
"	to moneys invested since June, '74..	1,808 20
"	for insurance.....	387 50
"	for stoves.....	351 75
"	for coal.....	503 30
"	for wood.....	225 00
"	for local improvements.....	750 00
"	paid to the Preachers' Aid Society of Ohio Conference, on note.....	3,640 00
"	to H. A. Hobbs, on account.....	250 60
"	to Wm. Harris, for labor.....	286 77
"	to J. R. Gilkey, on account.....	402 94
"	to J. S. Berry, ".....	180 82
"	to S. R. Stebins, ".....	150 00
"	to S. E. Hart & Co., ".....	135 00
"	to Kimbal & Son, ".....	107 05
"	to Stewart & Phelps, for defence of Hoag deed.....	150 00
"	to Wilcox & Bro., on account.....	115 00
"	to Ass't. Treasurer G. B. McElroy,	2,449 00
"	" " ".....	5,000 00
"	to disbursements for general and local purposes.....	5,114 75
Total amount disbursed.....		\$32,980 29

## GENERAL WORK OF AGENTS SINCE JULY 1ST, 1873.

Special subscription for debts.....	\$12,400 00
New notes, bearing interest.....	4,072 50
Penny-a-day notes.....	2,572 00
Subscription for local improvements.....	1,020 00
" " current expenses.....	835 00
Notes renewed.....	6,594 00
Total.....	\$28,899 50



## AMOUNT OF SPECIAL SUBSCRIPTION FOR DEBT.

## Annual Conferences.

Onondaga.....	\$5,500
Genesee.....	800
Minnesota.....	250
North Indiana.....	145
Teumas Cook.....	100
New York.....	690
New Jersey.....	638
Ohio.....	380
Muskingum.....	1,095
Indiana.....	575
Pittsburgh.....	560
North Illinois.....	1,150
College.....	400
From sundry persons.....	117
Total.....	<u>\$12,400</u>

## SUMMARY OF ENTIRE ASSETS.

College grounds, buildings and all the appurtenances..	\$150,000 00
Lands secured to the College.....	5,000 00
Notes for payment of debts, considered good.....	5,500 00
Lands transferred with the College, for debts.....	2,000 00
Interest now due for debts, considered good.....	3,000 00
Special subscriptions for debts, uncollected.....	4,996 00
Total endowment, uncollected.....	64,700 00
Amos fund.....	20,000 00
Hamilton fund.....	11,000 00
Other moneys, invested.....	7,000 00
Penny-a-day notes, uncollected.....	6,000 00
Total.....	<u>\$279,196 00</u>
Amount of notes considered doubtful.....	\$24,338 00
Total amount of liabilities.....	<u>15,500 00</u>
Total.....	<u>\$39,838 00</u>

Deducting this amount from the whole assets, leaves  
the grand total of.....\$239,358 00

It will be seen by the above exhibit, that notwithstanding the financial closeness of times, our College has been making some progress financially.

The liabilities of the same having been provided for, it is now virtually out of debt.

## EXHIBIT

Of the amount of notes taken for Endowment, the amount paid, the amount unpaid, the amount considered doubtful, the amount considered good:

ANNUAL CONFERENCES.	Amount of Notes.	Amount of Notes Coll'd.	Uncol- lected.	Consid- ered Doubtful	Amount Consid. Good.
Pittsburgh.....	\$32,950	\$8,133	\$24,817	\$8,111	\$16,706
Muskingum.....	15,340	9,945	5,395	2,408	2,987
Ohio.....	35,484	25,200	10,284	5,040	5,240
Indiana.....	22,960	21,059	1,901	185	1,716
Iowa.....	2,375	665	1,710	350	1,360
North Iowa.....	100	100	.....	.....	.....
Minnesota.....	100	100	.....	.....	.....
North Illinois.....	10,710	1,022	9,688	100	9,588
South Illinois.....	1,888	511	1,377	532	845
West Virginia.....	990	295	695	670	25
Michigan.....	5,159	1,919	3,240	3,115	125
West Michigan.....	1,457	395	1,062	832	230
Oregon.....	100	.....	100	100	.....
New York.....	2,699	1,848	851	626	225
Onondaga.....	3,578	1,770	1,808	953	855
Genesee.....	2,725	1,080	1,645	1,210	435
New Jersey.....	175	44	131	106	25
Total.....	138,790	74,086	64,700	24,338	40,362

Amount of notes taken for payment of debts, amount paid, amount unpaid, amount considered doubtful, amount considered good:

ANNUAL CONFERENCES.	Notes Taken.	Amount Paid.	Amount Unpaid.	Amount Cons'd D'tful.	Amount Cons'd Good.
Pittsburgh.....	\$3,599	\$1,626	\$1,973	\$1,335	\$ 638
Muskingum.....	5,811	5,142	669	476	193
Ohio.....	3,405	1,165	2,240	294	1,946
Indiana.....	1,522	1,028	494	364	130
Iowa.....	1,445	913	532	415	117
North Illinois.....	1,347	1,347	.....	.....	.....
Michigan.....	2,812	842	1,970	1,838	132
West Michigan.....	1,270	755	515	415	100
Onondaga.....	470	275	195	100	95
Total.....	21,681	13,093	8,588	5,237	3,351



WHOLE AMOUNT OF RECEIPTS OF J. S. THRAP, AGENT, FROM  
MAY 1, 1871, TO OCT. 13, 1873.

1871.	DR.	
May 1st.	To cash on hands.....	\$152 32
"	" " endowment.....	5,384 47
"	" " interest.....	6,407 11
"	" " pay debts.....	1,249 52
"	" rec'd of Treas'r for Profs...	2,571 50
"	" amount subscribed.....	646 55
		<hr/> \$16,411 47
"	To notes for N. Ills. Professorship...	2,140 00
"	To cash to pay debts.....	1,123 00
"	" on old sub.....	328 26
"	" P. Laws, col. apc.....	51 00
"	Alimer Haig's deed.....	5,000 00
"	Borrowed of bank.....	425 00
"	Cash on Amos fund.....	4,301 82
"	" scholarship.....	200 00
"	" wood .....	13 55
"	Note to endowment.....	50 00
"	Cash on one-penny-a-day notes.....	89 75
		<hr/> 13,722 38
"	" for roof, N. H., &c.....	579 00
"	" tuition.....	30 00
"	" on old bell.....	18 72
"	" refunded insurance.....	18 78
"	W. M. Hamilton's note.....	1,463 98
		<hr/> 2,110 48
		<hr/> \$32,244 33

The amount of endowment invested, and in notes uncollected, considered reliable, is near eighty thousand dollars (\$80,000.00), the income from same per year, is some six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00). The current expenses of running the College (aside from local) is some ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) per year, leaving a deficiency of some four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00) per year to be provided for, until the endowment is so increased that the income therefrom will meet the current expenses of the College.

When we take into consideration the limited time we have been engaged in this enterprise, "who among us," in the language of our efficient predecessor, has not reason to be thankful for the success that has thus far attended our efforts, and who should not be inspired with increased interest and renewed effort, to so increase the endowment of our noble College, that the same become self-sustaining.

We would most respectfully urge a greater degree of interest and more hearty co-operation upon the part of pastors generally, in sustaining our College interests, for with them, to a great extent, depends the success of this enterprise.

We most earnestly hope and pray, dear brethren of the General Conference, convened, that you will, in your wisdom, adopt such measures in reference to this important enterprise of the Church as will, in the first place, fully recognize, in our Book of Discipline, its *existence*; as will, in the second place, define its powers in general; and also, as will, in the third place, express its responsibilities to this body; and, in the fourth place, inaugurate such measures as will, in keeping with the address of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of Adrian College, increase our Endowment Fund to the sum of \$150,000.00 at least.

In this connection, we would suggest the propriety of bringing before our people the idea of a centennial offering. Other denominations are taking the advantage of the public spirit of this occasion, and are using it in the accomplishment of grand ends which they have designed.

Shall we also show our appreciation of civil and religious liberty by making an earnest effort in behalf of the general interests of our Church. By thus doing, we would not only benefit ourselves as a Church, but we would assist in disseminating those principles of freedom and justice which are the price of our nationality.

I have already indicated a plan in the *Recorder* by which the College could be placed on such a financial footing that its success would be assured.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

N. R. SWIFT.



## STUDENTS IN ATTENDANCE FROM 1871-75.

Years.	Whole No.	Ladies.	Gentlemen.	Graduates.
71-72.....	62 C, 71 P—133.....	59.....	74.....	8 G, — 8
72-73.....	70 C, 32 P—102.....	45.....	57.....	4 G, 2 L— 6
73-74.....	86 C, 52 P—138.....	43.....	95.....	5 G, 1 L— 6
74-75.....	79 C, 74 P—153.....	46.....	107.....	12 G, 1 L—13
<hr/>				
Average,	74 $\frac{1}{4}$ C, 57 $\frac{1}{4}$ P—131 $\frac{1}{2}$ .....	48 $\frac{1}{4}$	83 $\frac{1}{4}$	7 $\frac{1}{4}$ G, 1 L— 8 $\frac{1}{4}$

## MUSIC.

71-72.....	48.....	42.....	6.....	1 G, 6 L—7
72-73.....	42.....	36.....	6.....	1 L—1
73-74.....	59.....	37.....	22.....	.....
74-75.....	39.....	21.....	18.....	.....
<hr/>				
Average.....	47.....	34.....	13	2

## PAINTING AND DRAWING.

71-72.....	16.....	11.....	5.....	.....
72-73.....	15.....	15.....	.....	.....
73-74.....	8.....	7.....	1.....	.....
74-75.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
<hr/>				
Average.....	9 $\frac{3}{4}$	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	.....

## THEOLOGY.

		Under the Board.	
71-72.....	24.....	21.....	3—2 Bd.
72-73.....	20.....	15.....	3—3 “
73-74.....	24.....	15.....	3—3 “
74-75.....	29.....	13.....	3—2 “
<hr/>			
Average .....	24 $\frac{1}{4}$	16	3 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ “

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LITERARY INSTITUTIONS.

We are gratified to know that the past four years has witnessed an encouraging prosperity in Adrian College. It has not only maintained its former position as an educational institution, but has proved its peculiar fitness to meet the wants of the Church and the age. As a Church, we are under tremendous responsibilities; the measure of responsibility is to the last particle of ability. Gifts involve obligation; and improvement is the law of all true progress. Work is the price paid for all permanent good. Toil quickens, electrifies, and builds.

Education is a condition of intellectual progress; to provide

## BY AMOUNT PAID OUT FROM MAY 1, 1871, TO OCTOBER 13, 1873.

By cash paid	professors.....	\$7,386 41	
" "	insurance.....	353 03	
" "	agents' salary.....	3,004 34	
" "	traveling expenses.....	843 09	
" "	stationery.....	12 46	
" "	postage.....	55 02	
			\$11,654 35
" "	interest.....	108 95	
" "	expressage.....	9 50	
" "	roofs .....	641 11	
" "	Amos fund invested.....	4,513 45	
" "	W. M. Hamilton's note.....	1,236 00	
" "	redemption and tax on land.....	118 01	
" "	revenue .....	2 38	
" "	exchange .....	6 60	
By note of N. Ill. Professorship.....		2,045 00	
" cash to J. S. Thrap, balance on note.....		95 00	
			8,776 00
" notes for debts.....		1,223 00	
" " endowment.....		50 00	
" cash paid Savings Bank.....		500 00	
" " Clark & Judge, plastering.....		25 16	
" " N. Britton, lightning rods.....		40 00	
" " new bell on S. hall.....		208 53	
" " recording .....		5 75	
" " Beecher & Co., collecting.....		23 65	
" " printing.....		57 75	
" " Treasurer .....		3,639 00	
			5,772 84
" " W. H. Stone's Bank, on account			
" " Profs .....		675 84	
" " drayage.....		50	
" " J. S. Thrap, on loan.....		30 00	
" " Alimer Haig's deed.....		5,000 00	
" " J. B. Lucas' Agency.....		20 00	
" " telegram.....		1 30	
" " P. Low, two lots in Adrian.....		226 00	
" " lawyers, to defend Haig deed....		10 00	
" " incidentals.....		3 29	
" " Wm. Chambers, Esq., collect'g,		12 00	
" " J. B. Walker, on one-penny-a-			
" " day notes.....		74 75	
			6,053 68
			\$32,256 87
Paid out.....		\$32,256 87	
Received.....		32,244 33	
Excess expended, donated.....		\$12 54	



a tower of strength, when they cherish a love to the institution; to secure the grateful remembrance, give them a share of the governmental and other control.

In the case of our own institution, the experiment is well worth trying. And we would therefore commend the subject to the careful attention of the Board at Adrian, and if, in their judgment, the change will be for the best interest of the College, we would recommend them to make the desired change in their articles of association, provided that the change shall not include more than one-sixth of the entire number of trustees.

And we would recommend that, on page 53 of the Discipline, Sec. VII, after the word "educational," it read a Board of Trustees for Adrian College.

Your committee have had referred to them a query, Whether it is advisable to encourage the establishment of Annual Conference Seminaries. We advise that great care be exercised in organizing such institutions, for fear that such enterprises will involve the Conferences and our people in financial disaster.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. R. PARSONS,  
*Chairman.*

the means of mental culture is the dictate of wisdom. Intellectual culture and moral refinement is the needed preparation for the responsibilities of life.

Your committee have examined with great care the record made by Adrian College during the past four years. It has commended itself to our respect, and has awakened an increased interest in its prosperity. To augment its power and usefulness will require large, earnest, and hopeful sympathy. The whole Methodist Church must be interested; it must have its fostering care, a care that will furnish in the future young men and young women in greater numbers than we have in the past. We must give them our most promising sons and daughters, as well as our devout Christian sympathies.

Your committee are glad to learn from the General Agent of the College, brother N. R. Swift, that the past indebtedness of the College has been provided for, so that this noble institution is virtually out of debt.

But we learn that the endowment does not as yet realize enough to meet its current expenses. We therefore recommend that the Board of Trustees take measures to collect the notes given for the purpose of endowment, and loan this fund on real estate security, at not less than 10 per cent. per annum interest, semi-annually, if practicable.

And we further recommend, in keeping with the published address of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees, and the suggestion in the report of the General Agent, that this General Conference institute such measures as will secure an addition of \$100,000 to the Endowment Fund by the 1st of January, 1877.

Your committee has had under consideration the petition of the Alumni Association of Adrian College. The General Conference is asked to recommend the Board of Trustees of the College to so change their articles of association as to require that a certain number of the trustees, elected by the General Conference at each of its quadrennial sessions, shall be from the acknowledged Alumni of the institution.

Your committee are aware that this custom obtains in a number of the older and more successful colleges of our land, and thereby the aid and sympathy of the Alumni are permanently secured to the college. Nor is this all. Having passed several years in college life, the Alumni cannot fail to have more ample knowledge of the actual needs, at least so far as the interior workings of the college are concerned. And beyond all this. It is a well-known fact that a great many of the large donations made to the colleges of our land during the last few years have come as thank-offerings from grateful Alumni to their Alma Maters.

In the management of an institution of learning very frequently "knowledge is power"—knowledge of what a college ought to be and must be in order to be a success. Financial ability is absolutely necessary; but such ability, wisely employed, is still more necessary. The roll of Alumni of a college is to it



of the above fifty-five mentioned, received assistance for a short time only, when, for reasons satisfactory to the Board, appropriations to them were discontinued. A part of these, also, have made settlement, and arranged to refund the money, and others, doubtless, will do the same in due time.

The Board, at present, are assisting twelve young men, who give much promise of future usefulness, a part of whom will leave the college for the active work at the close of the college year, in June next.

In addition to those aided directly by the Board, quite a number of young men have gone into the ministry, who received their education at our college. A part of these have been aided by personal friends, who have been deeply interested in this work. A few others were successful in finding employment for leisure hours and during vacations, and succeeded in working their own way through, except what was done for them by the college in granting free tuition. While still a few others have studied for the ministry, whose parents were able to furnish the means to defray the expenses of their education.

There are now, in all, over twenty candidates for the ministry, pursuing their studies in Adrian College, and while only a part of them are being sustained by the Board directly, many others are being aided by it indirectly; so that the scope of its work is much broader than the published facts and figures indicate.

The permanent funds of the Board, now bringing income, are as follows:

United States bonds.....	\$2,500 00
Money loaned.....	200 00
Total.....	\$2,700 00

The interest, also, of \$3,700.00 of the Allegheny Seminary Fund, held by a chartered Board, under the control of the Pittsburgh Conferences, is placed in the hands of this Board, annually, to aid in carrying forward its work.

Besides the above funds, the Board has information to the effect that at least two brethren, before their decease, made provisions in their wills to aid this enterprise on the settlement of their estate. One of these was brother John Whetstone, of Cincinnati, Ohio, of precious memory. He left \$1,000.00 for permanent investment.

The Treasurer's report will give full particulars in regard to the receipts and disbursements of the Board during the past four years.

#### COURSE OF STUDY.

It is to be deeply regretted, that a number of the young men who have gone from the college into the ministry, did not remain long enough to make that thorough preparation for their work that was needed. Also, that up to a recent period, it has been impossible to give that full and complete training, in theological studies, which was necessary to fully qualify young men for the ministry. But we are now glad to say, that arrangements have

## DOCUMENT I.

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### REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

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This Board was organized in the city of Springfield, Ohio, January 19, 1866, at a meeting called for that purpose.

The object of the Board, as declared in the constitution then adopted, was to assist worthy young men of the Methodist Church in preparing for the work of the ministry.

Though the Board was not yet officially recognized by the General Conference, several of the Annual Conferences, as they met, thereafter, gave their approval of the movement, and the Board prosecuted the work of raising funds, and aiding young men, with encouraging success, until the meeting of the ensuing General Conference, held in Allegheny City, Pa., November 14-22, 1866.

The General Conference then gave its approval to the enterprise, and adopted measures for the vigorous prosecution of the work proposed. For reasons deemed sufficient, the location of the Board was then changed, from Springfield, Ohio, to Pittsburgh, Pa., where it still continues to carry on its work, in the midst of many warm friends and liberal supporters.

As will be seen by the constitution adopted, the funds of the Board are to be held in two departments, viz.: 1. The Permanent Fund, and 2. The Distributive Fund.

The former of these is required to be kept safely invested, and the interest only, used annually. The latter is comprised of the interest of the Permanent Fund, together with the contributions of the churches and individual friends of the enterprise, made annually for that purpose.

Up to the meeting of the General Conference held four years ago, thirty-three candidates had been placed under the care of the Board for assistance, fifteen of whom had then entered the ministry in their respective Conferences.

Since that time twenty-two others have been recommended, making fifty-five names in all, placed on our roll.

During the past four years eighteen others have left the college to join their brethren in the field, making in all thirty-three men, now in the ministry, as the direct result of this movement.

All of these continue in the ministry of the Methodist Church thus far, except two. Both of these brethren, however, settled up with the Board honorably, and gave their obligations to refund the money expended by it in their education.

During the nine years of the work of this Board, ten persons



3d. Hence, it is of the utmost importance that the respective Conferences use great care in the selection of candidates to receive this aid of the Church, so that those only shall be assisted, who are believed to be truly pious, possessing promising talents and gifts, and who are deeply impressed that God has called them to devote their lives to the work of the ministry.

#### IMPORTANCE OF THE WORK.

The importance of imitating the example of the Master by laboring to increase the number of laborers in the ministry; the special necessity for their proper education and training for the work; the great necessity that now exists for a large increase of properly qualified ministers in our own beloved branch of Zion, are subjects that only need be mentioned for your consideration. Your ample knowledge of their importance precludes the necessity for argument.

The many calls for laborers in all our Conferences, on all the borders of this great country; the fact that more than one-half of the inhabitants of this vast world are yet in absolute heathenism, and must remain so until delivered by the preaching of the gospel, are arguments sufficient in themselves, without any multiplication of words in this paper, to move you to proper action.

We, therefore, submit the entire interest for your earnest consideration, feeling sure that, with the Board, your entire body will unite in sentiments of gratitude to the Great Head of the Church for His blessing, that has thus far been so clearly manifest to us from our beginning in this work.

J. B. WALKER,  
*Cor. Sec. Board of Min. Ed.*

been completed by the Faculty of the College, as will be seen in the catalogue for this year, by which a reasonably full course of theological studies will be taught hereafter, during the last two years of the college course, thus supplying a long felt need.

#### AGENCY.

The Board has done all in its power during the past four years to curtail expenses, as far as possible, and yet carry on the work confided to its management successfully.

To effect this, the Corresponding Secretary has given a portion of his time to College Agency, thus dividing the expenses between these two interests. This has worked well in the main, as these two objects are so near alike, that they can be looked after in almost every community, at the same time, by the same person.

But the Board is fully satisfied, that it will be impossible to carry on the work successfully, without the aid of a direct and efficient agent, to co-operate with pastors in securing means from the people for its support, as well as to give attention to the young men themselves at the college.

#### FEELING OF THE PEOPLE.

The Board has ample evidence of the growing appreciation of the people in this cause, who have become intelligent on the subject, not only by their cheerful contributions for its support, but many kind words of cheer and encouragement.

The fact that so large a number of those who have been assisted by the Church are now in the field, doing good work for the cause of Christ, is doing much to strengthen the faith and increase the interest of the people in this enterprise.

#### THE MINISTRY.

Much progress has also been made by pastors generally during the past four years, in their interest in this subject, and their ability to properly represent it to the people. The purpose now seems very general, in all the stronger Conferences at least, to present the subject to the people as required by the Discipline, and do what they can to procure means for its support.

It is earnestly desired that this General Conference will clearly define the relation and duty of both pastors and people to this important interest.

#### RELATION AND WORK OF THE BOARD.

The relation of the Board to the Church requires—

1st. That it receive the young men selected by the Annual Conferences; see that they live consistent lives while at the college, and pursue their course of preparation faithfully.

2d. To receive the money contributed for their support, and see that it is properly and faithfully applied to the object for which it was given.



# DISBURSEMENTS OF BOARD OF MINISTERIAL EDUCATION TO BENEFICIARIES, AND EXPENSES.

PAID TO	From May 1, 1871, to June 30, '72	June 30, '73	June 30, '74	May 1, '75	Aggregate.
Beneficiaries .....	3,193 75	3,513 25	2,894 50	1,816 68	11,418 18
Salaries.....	1,136 50	600 00	555 00	500 00	2,791 50
Traveling.....	302 75	184 42	137 88	126 03	751 08
Printing and Stat'y,	261 58	199 30	32 95	140 40	634 23
Postage.....	60 45	79 90	18 33	27 45	186 13
Interest.....	106 03	130 97	145 64	176 78	559 42
Express.....	60	2 70	90	.....	4 20
Paid on Loans.....	100 00	.....	.....	145 93	245 93
	5,161 66	4,710 54	3,785 20	2,933 27	16,590 67

## STATEMENT OF TREASURER OF BOARD OF MINISTERIAL EDUCATION, FOR FOUR YEARS ENDING MAY 1, 1875.

Balance May 1, 1871.....	\$10 59
Received from Districts.....	\$13,628 05
" Interest.....	696 80
" Allegheny Seminary.....	155 00
" Borrowed .....	1,912 62
" Loans returned.....	80 00
" Advertisements in Reports.	75 00
	<u>16,547 47</u>
	\$16,558 06
Paid to Beneficiaries.....	\$11,418 18
" Salaries.....	2,791 50
" Traveling.....	751 08
" Printing and Stationery.....	634 23
" Postage.....	186 13
" Interest.....	559 42
" Express.....	4 20
" On loans.....	245 93
	<u>\$16,590 67</u>

Overdrawn, \$32.61.

Very respectfully submitted.

JOHN H. CLANEY,

Treasurer.

RECEIPTS OF BOARD OF MINISTERIAL EDUCATION, FROM  
DISTRICTS AND OTHER SOURCES.

FROM	From May 1, 1871, to June 30, '72.	June 30, '73	June 30, '74	May 1, '75.	Aggregate.
New York District..	\$143 89	\$97 43	\$107 06	\$52 90	\$401 28
Onondaga .....	176 74	99 39	82 61	63 22	421 96
Genesee .....	71 05	40 60	64 91	13 14	189 70
New Jersey .....	70 48	102 52	67 25	71 56	311 81
Pittsburgh .....	2,250 56	1,875 12	1,036 65	570 46	5,732 79
Pennsylvania .....	6 00	1 00	.....	.....	7 00
Muskingum .....	486 83	347 93	269 27	204 55	1,308 58
Ohio .....	508 99	382 83	212 94	371 90	1,476 66
Michigan .....	103 84	162 36	150 14	90 08	506 42
West Michigan .....	89 80	29 00	42 55	45 18	206 53
Indiana .....	159 50	88 96	70 75	63 48	382 69
North Indiana .....	69 38	71 70	24 89	92 31	258 28
North Illinois .....	366 10	167 82	87 05	173 75	794 72
South Illinois .....	417 07	89 00	56 75	63 65	626 47
Iowa .....	35 10	110 75	58 15	38 85	242 85
North Iowa .....	69 25	34 80	19 65	39 75	163 45
Missouri .....	.....	46 15	9 10	4 76	60 01
North Missouri .....	.....	.....	6 70	.....	6 70
Nebraska .....	5 00	.....	.....	.....	5 00
Kansas .....	6 00	6 75	.....	.....	12 75
Washington Ter'y .....	.....	.....	20 00	.....	20 00
Envelopes .....	470 40	.....	.....	.....	470 40
Oregon .....	12 00	10 00	.....	.....	22 00
Interest .....	165 00	175 06	170 62	186 12	696 80
Borrowed .....	.....	157 87	1,154 75	600 00	1,912 62
Loans returned .....	.....	80 00	.....	.....	80 00
Advert'g in Reports, .....	.....	75 00	.....	.....	75 00
Allegheny Seminary .....	.....	.....	.....	155 00	155 00
	5,682 98	4,252 04	3,711 79	2,900 66	16,547 47



Your committee are of the opinion that the adoption of the above plan would develop the manhood of the young men, make them more self-reliant, and prompt them to greater efforts to sustain themselves.

A paper, presented to the Conference and referred to your committee, touching the propriety of taking measures to establish a Theological Department in Adrian College, for the especial benefit of young men preparing for the ministry, has been considered.

The subject is one of importance; and while it would be impracticable, in the opinion of your committee, to attempt, at this time, all that is desirable in this connection, they think that something may be effected greatly to the advantage of our young men preparing for the ministry in the college.

They therefore beg leave to recommend that the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of Adrian College be requested to select some suitable person to take charge of our Church organization in Adrian, and competent to give instruction in Systematic Theology to the theological students, and that the Board of Ministerial Education and the Board of Missions be instructed to supplement the contributions of the Church in Adrian in sufficient amount to afford the necessary support of such a pastor and teacher. The importance to our students and to the Church at large of a regular Church organization, under proper pastoral care, in Adrian, where the children of our members, and especially those of them preparing for the ministry, may be surrounded with proper denominational influences, must be apparent to all.

The importance, also, of bringing the theologues under the influence and instruction of a competent person engaged in the active work of the ministry, cannot fail to do much to prepare them for the important and active duties of the ministerial office.

Your committee feel that this Conference cannot urge too earnestly upon the ministers and members of the Church the importance of sustaining the Board of Ministerial Education in its efforts to assist worthy young men in preparing for the ministry in the Methodist Church. Every pastor should be held strictly responsible for the discharge of his duty in taking up subscriptions for the Board, as required in the Discipline, and should urge upon the people the importance of contributing liberally for its support.

From the report of the Treasurer, which is herewith submitted, it appears that there is a considerable debt hanging over the Board. This affords cause of regret. Your committee recommend that the Board endeavor, so soon as possible, to cancel this indebtedness, and in the future to so limit its expenditures as to keep them within its receipts.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN SCOTT,  
*Chairman.*



## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Your committee, to whom was referred the subject of Ministerial Education and papers relating thereto, have had the same under serious consideration, and beg leave to submit the following:

It affords your committee pleasure to be able to speak in terms of commendation of the industry, faithfulness and perseverance of the Corresponding Secretary of the Board. He has been active and diligent, and has done what he could to promote the interest committed to his care.

The success which has attended the Church through the agency of the Board of Ministerial Education, to qualify young men for the Christian ministry in the Methodist Church, although not so great as could have been desired, has nevertheless been such as to give promise of important results, and great good to the Church. Some evils, which were perhaps unavoidable in the beginning of such an enterprise, have been discovered, but have been partially, and it is confidently expected will hereafter be fully, guarded against.

Among these has been the admission of unsuitable persons as beneficiaries of the Board, who have disappointed the expectations of the Church, and some of whom have even left the fold. Still a large majority of those who have received assistance have entered the ministry of our Church, and if they are humble and faithful, will no doubt become ordinarily successful in the ministry.

In order to guard, in the future, against the evil referred to, your committee recommend that hereafter no person be received as a beneficiary of the Board unless he be recommended by an Annual Conference as a young man of undoubted piety, and of good natural ability, and who shall be able to pass an examination admitting him to the class of the second year in the college. With the advantages enjoyed almost everywhere for young men to pursue their preparatory studies, your committee think it is not advisable for the Board to take any young man under its care until he is prepared to enter the course of the second year.

Indeed, any young man who cannot, in a reasonable length of time, with the assistance which may almost everywhere be obtained to qualify himself to enter the second preparatory year, has not the perseverance and energy necessary to secure success in the ministry.

Your committee further recommend that the aid afforded to young men shall be in the form of a loan, without interest, to be refunded to the Board by the party receiving it, at the rate of ten per cent. of the amount of salary received per annum after he enters the active work of the ministry. In case he leaves the Church, or engages in secular pursuits, he shall refund the whole amount, with interest from the time he leaves the Church or retires from the ministry. Every beneficiary of the Board, before entering the college, should be required to give his written obligation to the Board to comply with the above conditions.



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**STATEMENT OF THE CONDITION OF THE METHODIST BOARD  
OF PUBLICATION, JULY 1, 1872.**

**ASSETS—**

Real estate, (Springfield).....	\$10,500 00	
Stock.....	631 64	
Book accounts.....	1,258 72	
Rent accounts.....	117 05	
Printing press.....	890 00	
Stereotype plates.....	1,128 38	
Advertising accounts.....	482 76	
Printing material.....	2,200 00	
Office furniture.....	150 00	
Cash in hands of Treasurer.....	2,405 81	
Subscription list and good will.....	3,000 00	
		<u>\$22,764 16</u>

**LIABILITIES—**

Bills payable.....	<u>4,779 02</u>
--------------------	-----------------

Assets over liabilities.....	<u>\$17,985 04</u>
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**STATEMENT OF THE CONDITION OF THE METHODIST BOARD  
OF PUBLICATION, MAY 1, 1875.**

**ASSETS—**

Real estate.....	\$25,000 00	
Stock.....	4,013 24	
Book accounts.....	2,117 55	
Advertising accounts.....	717 85	
Printing material.....	2,710 00	
Stereotype plates.....	2,156 12	
Paper.....	268 50	
Notes.....	295 00	
Store and office furniture.....	563 50	
Cash on hand.....	675 16	
Subscription list and good will.....	7,000 00	
		<u>\$45,516 92</u>

**LIABILITIES—**

Balance on book room property.....	\$8,000 00	
Interest.....	480 00	
Bills payable.....	6,971 88	
		<u>15,451 88</u>

Assets over liabilities.....	<u>\$30,065 04</u>
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**BUSINESS EXHIBIT.**

For the year ending May 1st, 1872.....	\$ 15,249 61
“ “ May 1st, 1873.....	22,308 97
“ “ May 1st, 1874.....	27,718 99
“ “ May 1st, 1875.....	29,832 13
	<u>\$95,109 70</u>
Total in four years.....	\$95,109 70
Sale of Springfield property.....	10,360 36
	<u>\$105,470 06</u>

## DOCUMENT J.

### METHODIST BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

#### AGENTS QUADRENNIAL REPORT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES, FROM MAY 1, 1871, TO MAY 1, 1875.

##### RECEIPTS—

Methodist Recorder.....	\$ 37,524 39
Morning Guide.....	13,311 77
Advertising.....	7,787 43
Books.....	23,059 89
Sale of Springfield property.....	10,360 36
From Treasurer.....	3,198 75
Rent, Springfield property.....	655 80
Loans.....	7,735 48
Sale of printing press.....	1,000 00
Sale of type.....	200 60
Donations for improvements on property.....	513 29
Printing.....	122 30

\$105,470 06

##### EXPENDITURES—

Paper.....	\$ 22,445 84
Printers.....	13,800 50
Salaries, editor and assistant.....	8,697 05
Salaries, agents, clerks and solicitors.....	8,643 62
Press work.....	7,134 61
Books.....	11,340 20
Binders.....	3,863 08
Rent.....	1,850 00
Type and material.....	1,188 07
Engravings.....	496 04
Real estate—book room property.....	7,000 00
Improvements on book room property.....	2,583 27
Loans.....	4,644 30
Hymn book plates.....	2,287 12
Expense of compiling hymn book.....	150 00
Foreign correspondence.....	100 00
Store fixtures.....	251 75
Interest.....	676 25
Freight and drayage.....	562 09
Note of Treasurer (former).....	1,407 79
Postage.....	330 08
Expense—taxes, fuel, gas, traveling expenses, &c.....	4,079 32
Stamps.....	1,263 92
Cash on hand.....	675 16

\$105,470 06

JAS. ROBISON, *Agent.*

PITTSBURGH, *May* 13, 1875.



**A TABULAR STATEMENT SHOWING THE NUMBER OF MINISTERS BELONGING TO THE SEVERAL ANNUAL CONFERENCES AND PROPORTION IN WHICH MONEY IS SENT FOR THE METHODIST RECORDER.**

Whole number of members of Conferences.....	650
Of this number there are who do nothing.....	300
There are who send from \$20 and upwards.....	100
"          "          \$20 to \$50.....	75
"          "          over \$50.....	15
"          "          less than \$20.....	160
Laymen, \$20 and upwards.....	10

In concluding, it is proper to state that one year and two months of the term Rev. A. H. Bassett served as Agent since the last General Conference, is included in this report, namely, from 1st of May, 1871, to the 1st of July, 1872. At the solicitation of the Board, I very reluctantly accepted the agency, upon brother Bassett's resignation of it. From that time until this I have aimed and tried to do the best my circumstances allowed; with what success, if any, you, my brethren of the General Conference, must determine.

Another matter I feel it to be my duty to mention, is the very liberal manner in which the President of the Board of Publication, brother J. J. Gillespie, helped the Agent with his wise counsel and pecuniary means, when the never-to-be-forgotten panic of 1873 came upon the country. Our receipts were suddenly and almost entirely stopped; our agents were doing little or nothing, and the prospect was truly alarming. It was then, with his wise counsel and his own means and good name, he helped us through our great trial, and that the Concern lives and has any degree of prosperity, is owing largely to the deep interest he has taken in it. This much I say that honor may be given to whom it is due.

With profoundest gratitude to the Great Head of the Church, the Board of Publication, and all who have co-operated with me in promoting our publishing interests, I close this report of my humble labors for the last three years as Publishing Agent.

**JAMES ROBISON.**

**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF PUBLICATION.**

In presenting their report, the Board of Publication take occasion to state some of the difficulties which they had to encounter at the commencement of their trust.

In the first place, brothers R. H. Marshall and Wm. Morrison, who were elected members of the Board by the General Conference, declined to serve. Their places were filled by the election of Jno. Croft and J. J. Gillespie. Then, as the duties devolving upon the Board were entirely new, the lack of experience was very much felt. Especially as neither the Agent (Mr. Bassett) nor any member of the former Board, were in Pittsburgh.



# SHOWING YEARLY RECEIPTS FOR THE METHODIST RECORDER, MORNING GUIDE AND ADVERTISING.

	Meth. Recorder.	M. Guide.	Adv'g.
For year ending May 1st, 1872...	\$ 8,878 55...	\$2,271 69..	\$ 718 05
" May 1st, 1873...	8,696 88...	2,617 91..	1,945 10
" May 1st, 1874...	9,654 80...	3,292 94..	2,538 01
" May 1st, 1875...	10,324 16...	5,129 23..	2,616 27

Since the session of the last General Conference we have published, according to direction of the said Conference, a pulpit edition of the new hymn book Voice of Praise, consisting of 2,000 copies, and eight editions of the Pew Hymn Book, consisting of 14,500 copies. We have also published five thousand copies of the Discipline of 1871, all of which have been sold. We found the suggestion of the last General Conference to publish a hymn book with notes to be impracticable, owing to the size of the book and the inadequacy of our resources.

## THE SUBSCRIPTION LIST OF THE METHODIST RECORDER, BY DISTRICTS AND STATES, IS AS FOLLOWS:

Pittsburgh.....1,014	Onondaga.....206	Texas.....	2
Muskingum..... 891	New York.....262	Alabama.....	10
Ohio..... 750	Boston..... 43	Colorado .....	3
N. Illinois..... 518	Maryland..... 35	Idaho.....	1
Michigan..... 342	Wisconsin..... 62	Mississippi.....	5
Iowa..... 250	Kentucky..... 22	Florida.....	3
N. Iowa..... 203	Georgia..... 10	Louisiana.....	1
Indiana..... 292	Arkansas..... 6	Virginia.....	5
Kansas..... 182	N. Carolina..... 26	Canada.....	4
W. Michigan... 157	Washington Ter. 10	Dis. Columbia..	5
S. Illinois..... 195	Oregon..... 11	Delaware.....	2
N. Indiana..... 151	Nebraska..... 71	Other places.....	53
Missouri..... 177	Minnesota..... 45		
N. Missouri..... 112	California.... 10	Total.....	6,456
New Jersey..... 100	South Carolina.. 5		
Genesee.....183	Wyoming Ter.... 1		

## STATEMENT SHOWING THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PRESENT EXPENSES AND THOSE OF 1872.

1872.	1875.
Editor, agt. & clerks.. \$4,220 00	Ed. and assist., clerks, \$4,504 00
Composition..... 4,472 00	agents and boy..... 3,120 00
Advertising agent..... 780 00	Composition..... 1,600 00
Rent..... 1,200 00	Press work..... 480 00
Press work..... 2,000 00	Interest..... 4,000 00
Paper..... 4,600 00	Paper.....
Total, 1872.....\$17,272 00	Total.....\$13,704 00
Total, 1875..... 13,704 00	Difference in working
Difference..... \$3,568 00	forces, 1872..... \$5,000 00
	do 1875..... 4,504 00
	\$496 00



continued ever since, they (the Board) believing it necessary, owing to the increase of duties and the delicate health of brother Clark. Miss Johnson has given entire satisfaction, and we think it desirable that she be retained.

In consequence of the general financial depression, commencing in September, 1873, we have not made the progress we undoubtedly should have done, had it not been for this drawback. Yet we are not discouraged. On the contrary, we think we have great cause for thankfulness. Struggling, as we have been, for lack of means, depending on our receipts, due us in small amounts, from New York to Nebraska. Depending solely on the voluntary thoughtfulness of our friends, scattered almost over the entire United States, we feel proud of our people and our cause.

We think it cause for congratulation that we have been able not only to hold our own, but to increase our capital several thousand dollars over and above all donations.

The Board have to lament the death of brother Wm. Miller, who was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the removal of brother McKeever to Adrian, Mich.

Before laying down the trust reposed in us by the Conference of 1871, we wish to state, while different members of the Board may not always have approved of all the acts of Editor or Publisher in conducting the business, yet Editor and Publisher may not have approved of all the actions of the Board. Still, we have worked together harmoniously for what we believed to be to the interest of our Church and people.

There are many things that occur to us which we might offer as suggestions for the future, but they can mostly be summed up in a few words.

Establish and sustain a "Central Board of Publication." It should have a capital of from twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000). It should have the means to publish any work relating to our doctrines, opinions and history. Our *Recorder* and *Guide* should not only reflect the feelings, opinions and wishes of all our people, but our people should feel the great loss they sustain if not acquainted with what is going on in the Church. Before another General Conference shall have met, we will have our "Centennial" year of independence, also our semi-centennial of independent Church government.

We should do something worthy the cause and our *history*. What better could we do for the spread of the gospel than assist the general interests of the Church? What general interest is of more importance than our publication *interest*?

Brethren, we shall soon be called upon to give an account of our stewardship. Our fathers, where are they? *Nearly* all have "crossed the flood;" a few are still lingering on the brink, but before the year 1878 (when our history of fifty years shall have been written), perhaps the last one will have crossed. What word shall they carry over? That the children are worthy their sires; that they are self-sacrificing, and true to each other and

It then became necessary to send some one of our members to Springfield, to consult with them, effect the removal of our printing material, &c.

This involved not only a loss of time, but considerable expense. Another difficulty was to find a suitable location.

With our limited means, we thought best to seek as low a rent as possible. We took the second story of a house on Sixth street, which proved entirely unsuitable, for the reason that we could not present a creditable appearance.

We then removed to No. 84 Wood street, where we remained until April 1st, 1873. Finally, we were enabled to locate the Concern permanently, through the liberality of the members of the First Methodist Church, Pittsburgh, in selling us a lot, 20x110 feet, on Fifth avenue, including their parsonage, for the nominal sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000), seven thousand (\$7,000) to be paid cash, and the balance in twenty-five years, with six per cent. interest.

Also, by the sale of the Springfield property, which had been effected some time previous.

The Board wish to say here that the lot is assessed for taxable purposes, twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000), and the building for five thousand dollars (\$5,000), which is the lowest *cash* valuation of the property.

Were it put to rent, it would not only pay off the mortgage long before it became due, but a good interest on the present investment.

The removal from Springfield took place in November, 1871, brother Bassett agreeing to remain with us until the 1st of July following, at which time the Board had considerable difficulty in filling his place, owing to doubts of the final success of the Concern.

On the 1st of July, 1872, the Board engaged Rev. James Robison, to fill the place of brother Bassett, resigned, to whose report, as well as brother Bassett's, we call your attention.

It is well known to the "trade" that the profits of newspapers are in their advertisements, to procure which they must have a large circulation.

To increase the circulation of the *Recorder*, we (the Board) resolved to reduce the price to two dollars, to take effect the 1st of January, 1872.

How successful we have been is shown in the increase in the amount of our advertising receipts, which were:

For the year ending May, 1872.....	\$ 718 05
" " " " " 1873.....	1,945 10
" " " " " 1874.....	2,508 01
" " " " " 1875.....	2,616 27
Total.....	\$7,787 43

On the 13th of March, 1874, the Board, at the request of the editor, engaged Miss A. R. Johnson as assistant editor, at a salary of five hundred dollars (\$500) per annum, which has been



Board or the Executive Committee. He shall be required to give bond and approved security for the faithful discharge of his duties, and he shall pay out moneys on the order of the Executive Committee, and take receipts for the same. He shall settle with the Executive Committee quarterly, or oftener, if required.

ART. V. The regular meetings of the Board shall be semi-annually, to be held at such time and place as shall be designated from time to time.

ART. VI. The Board of Publication shall have control of all the property of the Book Concern of the Methodist Church, and shall hold it in trust for the benefit of the Church. It shall have the oversight of all the business of the Concern, and be responsible to the General Conference of the Methodist Church. It shall have power to fill all vacancies in its own body or in the office of Editor or Publishing Agent, in the interval of the General Conference. The power of election being in that body originally by a law of the Church.

It shall see that the Editor and the Publishing Agent faithfully carry out the requirements of the General Conference, and such other measures as the Board shall see fit to adopt from time to time. It shall have power, in the interval of the General Conference, to remove from office the Editor or Publishing Agent, for failure to perform the duties assigned them by the General Conference or the Board, for immorality, or incompetency, or other sufficient cause; provided, however, that such removal shall not be ordered until opportunity for defence shall have been given. In case any member shall neglect or refuse to attend three successive meetings of the Board, regularly and properly called, the Board shall have power to declare his place vacant, and proceed to fill it in accordance with the provisions hereinbefore contained. The Board shall have power to remove, for sufficient cause, any of its own officers and elect others in their stead.

It may, by itself or through its Executive Committee, appoint special agents, as the occasion may demand, for the performance of special duties.

It shall fix the salary of the Editor and of the Publishing Agent, and of all the employees of the Board.

It shall see that all publications ordered by the General Conference, or on its own authority, are issued as economically as is compatible with the proper execution of the work, and shall take such measures as shall secure the largest possible sale of publications, such as locating depositories, establishing agencies, fixing rates of commission, etc., etc.

It shall see that all accounts are properly audited and settled, and that all the business of the Concern is conducted on proper business principles, and shall cause to be made to the General Conference a report of the business of the four preceding years, together with an exact statement of all assets and liabilities at the time of the report.

The Board shall have power to pass such by-laws, rules and regulations as shall be necessary for the regulation of their own action in carrying forward the purpose of its organization or de-



the cause they represent. Our fathers traveled for days and weeks, facing heat, cold and storms, to meet men of like faith, and carry the banner of reform wherever they went.

In like manner let us, by means of the Press, spread and disseminate our principles abroad, and be able to give a reason for the "hope that is within us."

By order of the Board.

Respectfully submitted.

W. J. TROTH,

*Secretary.*

J. J. GILLESPIE,

*President.*

## CHARTER OF THE BOARD OF PUBLICATION OF THE METHODIST CHURCH, APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

ARTICLE I. The members of the Board of Publication of the Methodist Church and their successors shall be constituted a body politic, by the name, style and title of "Board of Publication of the Methodist Church," and by the same name shall have perpetual succession, and shall be able to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded in all courts of law and equity, and shall have a right to make and use a common seal, and the same to break, alter and renew at pleasure.

ART. II. The objects and designs of this Board are the publication and dissemination of religious literature, through the medium of books, periodicals, tracts, papers, etc., and to superintend such publications as the General Conference of the Methodist Church may order.

ART. III. The officers of this Board shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Executive Committee of their number; provided, however, that any member of the Board being present at any meeting of said committee shall be entitled to all the rights of a member of the committee. They shall hold their respective offices for the term of one year, or until their successors are elected.

ART. IV. SEC. 1. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Board, and, when required to do so by three members, he shall call a special meeting of the Board, giving due notice through *The Methodist Recorder*, or the members personally.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of the Vice President to discharge all the duties of the President in the absence or disability of that officer.

SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a faithful record of the proceedings of the Board in a book provided for that purpose.

SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep, in a book provided for the purpose, a faithful account of all moneys received and disbursed, and report the same when required to do so by the



largest circulation yet obtained, but it is evident that it ought to have a much larger number of paying subscribers. Let us, as the General Conference of the Church, do what we can to double its circulation.

The *Morning Guide* is a beautiful paper for our children and our Sunday Schools, and has a circulation of nearly 80,000 copies. Encouraging as these figures are, may we not hope that 100,000 copies will soon be needed to meet the growing demand.

As Sunday School libraries are a specialty of our Book Room, and as such libraries are needed and must be had by our schools, we advise that, whenever practicable, they be procured from our own Concern, with other books.

We advise, in view of avoiding losses and insuring safety, that cash sales, or a very limited credit, be the rule to be observed by the Agent in conducting the business, as the capital employed is too small to admit of large and extended credit.

We further advise that the Board of Publication require of its Treasurer such security as will be satisfactory to itself, for the safe keeping of its funds.

The Board of Publication, at a meeting held April 22d, 1875, recommended to this body the re-election of Alexander Clark as Editor, and James Robison as Publishing Agent, in which recommendation your committee heartily concur, believing them to be worthy, and that they will labor in the future, as in the past, for the integrity and success of our Zion.

The committee recommend that the thanks of this General Conference be cordially tendered to brother J. J. Gillespie, the President of the Board of Publication, and the other members of the Board, for the very valuable assistance rendered to our publishing interests.

The committee further recommend that an effort be made during the Centennial year to increase the working capital of our Book Concern to \$50,000, and that all the Annual Conferences be urged to act with diligence for the attainment of this object.

Your committee would also recommend that the Board consist of seven members, and that five of said Board be chosen within the Pittsburgh Conference, who shall constitute the Executive Committee. Of the remaining number there shall not more than one member be chosen in any Annual Conference. Your committee, having carefully examined the Charter, cordially approve it, and recommend that its provisions be faithfully carried out.

JOHN COWL,  
Chairman.

fining more especially the duties of the Editor, Publishing Agent or employees; provided they do not conflict with the provisions of this Charter.

ART. VII. The Executive Committee shall have all the power of the Board during the interval of its sessions, except removing from office, filling vacancies, or fixing salary of Editor or Publishing Agent; provided, they may fill a vacancy in their own number until the next meeting of the Board. They shall cause to be kept an exact record of their proceedings and report the same to the next meeting of the Board for their ratification.

ART. VIII. All letters pertaining to the publishing interests must be directed to the Publishing Agent, who shall reply as directed by Executive Committee, or in case such directions are not given, he shall reply as in his judgment the interest of the Concern may require.

He shall keep a file of all letters received and copies of answers sent, and report the same to the Board or Executive Committee, when required.

ART. IX. All orders on the Treasurer shall be given by the Executive Committee.

ART. X. The Court may be petitioned to amend this Charter by a majority of the members present at any regular meeting of the Board.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLISHING INTERESTS.

The Committee on the Publishing Interests of the Church have had the same under consideration, and regard the reports of the Board of Managers and Book Agent as satisfactory and highly encouraging. The location of our Publishing House is evidently favorable to a steady and growing business. That a position so central and favorable has been obtained on such easy terms, is a matter of congratulation. It now becomes the duty of the Church to patronize our own Book Concern, and to labor to increase the circulation of our papers to the utmost limit. The Press, as a power for good, cannot be too highly esteemed, nor too diligently employed. The preacher who aids in the circulation of the periodicals of the Church, finds in them efficient co-laborers in winning souls to Christ, and in building up and edifying believers. The member of the Church who takes and reads his Church paper every week, will be as well informed on the current history of the Church, and of her labors and necessities, as the pastor himself, and this is a great help to the preacher, as well as a great pleasure. "Knowledge is power," when possessed by the people, as well as when possessed by the ministry. An enlightened Church, enlightened by the truth and Spirit of God, and by the current facts of her history, must be a powerful and successful organization.

The circulation of the *Methodist Recorder* is nearly 7,000, the



7. The West North Carolina Conference shall embrace the western part of the State, the western line being the eastern line of Tennessee, the southern line of South Carolina; the eastern line the Charlotte and Columbia Railroad to Charlotte, North Carolina; thence, with the North Carolina Railroad, to Salisbury; thence, with the Western North Carolina Railroad, to Catawba river; thence, with the Catawba river, to Alexander and Wilkes counties; thence, north, to the Virginia line; thence, with the Virginia line, to the East Tennessee line.

8. The East North Carolina Conference shall include all the State of North Carolina not included in West North Carolina Conference.

J. SELBY,

*Chairman.*

## DOCUMENT K.

### CONFERENCE DISTRICTS.

Your Committee on Conference Districts beg leave to report:

1. That the boundary lines of Michigan and West Michigan Conferences be so changed as to read as follows, viz: Michigan Conference shall include all that part of the State of Michigan lying east of the meridian line, and the east half of the county of Clinton, Michigan.

2. West Michigan Conference shall include all that part of the State of Michigan lying west of the meridian line not included in the Michigan Conference, and the north tier of counties in the State of Indiana.

3. The line dividing the Onondaga and Genesee Conferences shall begin where the west line of Wayne county intersects Lake Ontario, running south to its intersection with the State line, dividing the States of Pennsylvania and New York; thence east, on said line, to the east line of Delaware county; thence north, following the line dividing the New York and Onondaga Conferences, to the northeast corner of Hamilton county; thence east to Lake Champlain; thence down said lake to the Canada line; thence west to the St. Lawrence river; thence, up said river and Lake Ontario, to the place of beginning.

4. We recommend that Indiana and North Indiana Conferences be united and known as Indiana Conference—said Conference to embrace all the State of Indiana except the northern tier of counties belonging to West Michigan Conference.

5. That Iowa and North Iowa Conferences be united and known as Iowa Conference, and to embrace all the State of Iowa; said union to be ratified by the Conferences concerned; that the North Iowa Conference meet with the Iowa Conference at its next session.

6. Minnesota Conference shall include all the State of Minnesota and that part of Wisconsin crossing the river at Lacrosse, running east to the southeast corner of Lacrosse county; thence, north, to Lake Superior.



conceal our entire lack of prospect in any good to accrue to either body by this process. Absorption of non-assimilative elements is generally attended by unrest, and is liable to result in disorder.

On the other hand, a natural Christian coalescence, such as will grow out of the maturing graces of regenerate hearts and sanctified lives, can afford the only hopeful prospect of happy union. And a mutual emulation in the graces of the divine beatitudes will prove the answer of the prayer of our common Lord—"That they may all be one, as we are one."

We think that as the Lord Jesus Christ is the center of Church attraction, all Christian people should be convergent in all their progress, so that ultimate union in our common Head may be the happy destiny of all Christian people.

In regard to the minor divisions, which have had their origin in extreme views of Christian practice, or in a disrelish of non-essentials, held by others from whom they separate themselves, there is alike less encouragement and desirableness for identification while the sentiments now held are existing. Our late effort at non-Episcopal Methodist union is significant in this regard.

The following resolutions were adopted, and ordered to be added to this report:

*Resolved*, That we highly appreciate the visit of the Senior Bishop of the M. E. Church, E. S. Janes, whose message to us was so fraternal and full of encouragement, whose preaching warmed and edified our souls, and whose brotherly intercourse was so Christian and affectionate. And that we especially welcome brother Wm. Hunter, D. D., editor of the *Pittsburgh Christian Advocate*, the officially appointed messenger of fraternity from the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, whose words to us have been so instructive and tender, and so hopeful of nearer gospel relations in the future.

*Resolved*, That we most cordially welcome to our Conference, brother C. W. Button, of Lynchburg, Va., whose message to us has been so intelligent, cordial and fraternal, that he shall be remembered as an agent of grace while in our midst.

T. E. LANCASTER,  
*Chairman.*

## DOCUMENT L.

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### REPORT ON METHODISTIC UNION.

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Inasmuch as the cause for suspension of official relations by the Conferences of the North, now represented in this General Conference, is now entirely removed by the providence of God, and the suspension having from the first been declared to be only contingent upon the continuance of the cause complained of. And whereas, furthermore, the General Conference in the South, assembled at Lynchburg, May, 1874, did, in accordance with mutual and reciprocal advances for reunion, elect nine commissioners to meet nine co-ordinate commissioners, expected to be appointed by this General Conference now in session, to deliberate together and devise plans for reunion alike honorable and desirable to each; therefore, this committee unanimously recommend the election of nine persons as commissioners for said purpose.

The committee report further, in regard to General Methodist Union:

1st. In relation to prospective union with the M. E. Church, that there is no immediate prospect for a union that would be mutually satisfactory. Time, which is accomplishing such wonders in our day, has not yet effected for the Methodist families, (so much alike in all things, except in matters of government,) as it has done for the Presbyterian families; yet we can but express congratulations, that we think may be mutual, that the M. E. Church has progressed so considerably of late in the direction of the principles that were made the basis of our own independent organization.

This progress is sometimes ignored as of no significance, but we think that much progress has been made, and that every step so made, not only vindicates the acts of our fathers, but is full of promise of a reunion. The matter of the smaller number of lay representatives in the General Conference is largely compensated by the law admitting of a call for the division of the house, so that no act can be passed without the concurrence of the laymen. In the District Conferences, not, however, a legislative body, it is even said that the laymen are in the majority. Thus the prospect of union with the M. E. Church, though not promising of anything of immediate results, is, nevertheless, of an encouraging character.

The policy of absorption in the M. E. Church, has been proposed. But it would be disingenuous in us, as a Church, to



Wakefield's Theology, books IV, V, VI and VII, Hickok's Moral Science, Constitution and Discipline of the Methodist Church.

Written Sermon or Essay.

(Read History of United States, and outlines of General History.)

### THIRD YEAR.

Bible History and Chronology. Candidates to be prepared upon the leading events recorded in the Old and New Testaments, Reference Book, Horne's Introduction, Butler's Analogy, Bain's Mental Science, Kidder's Homiletics. (Read Mosheim's Ecclesiastical History.) We recommend the following supplemental course of study, and an Annual Conference may require it in whole, or in part, either as a prerequisite to ordination, or to be pursued immediately thereafter: Watson's Theology, Fowler's Logic, Principles of Composition, Campbell's Philosophy of Rhetoric. (Read Wesley's Sermons, King and Stillingfleet on Apostolic Succession, Colhouer's Non-Episcopal Methodism, D'Aubigne's History of the Reformation.) The portion of the course included in brackets to be carefully read—other portions to be diligently studied.

H. STACKHOUSE,  
*Chairman.*

## DOCUMENT M.

### REPORT ON COURSE OF STUDY.

Your Committee on "Course of Study" respectfully recommend for adoption the following:

1. Candidates for the ministry may be admitted to probationary membership in an Annual Conference upon presenting a certificate from the Committee on Itinerancy, of having passed a satisfactory examination as to moral fitness, natural gifts, respectable literary attainments, and substantial agreement with the doctrines and usages of the Methodist Church.

2. Candidates for ordination are required to pass a creditable examination on the following course of study, or its full equivalent, before they can receive the office of elder:

#### FIRST YEAR.

##### BIBLE DOCTRINES.

The Existence of God, the Attributes of God, namely: Spirituality, Eternity, Omnipotence, Ubiquity, Omniscience, Immutability, Wisdom, Truth, Justice, Mercy, Love, Goodness, Holiness; the Trinity in Unity; the Deity of Christ, His Humanity, Union of both; Personality and Deity of the Holy Ghost; Depravity, Atonement, Regeneration, Adoption, Witness of the Spirit, Growth in Grace, Christian Perfection, Possibility of Final Apostacy, Immortality of the Soul, Resurrection of the Dead, General Judgment, Rewards and Punishments. (The examination on the above to be strictly Biblical, requiring the candidate to give the statement of the doctrines and proofs.)

Wakefield's Theology, books I, II and III, English Grammar, Physical and Descriptive Geography, (read Whitehead's Life of Wesley, and Watts on the Mind.)

#### SECOND YEAR.

The Bible Sacraments; the Sacrament of Baptism, its nature, design, obligation, subjects and mode; the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, its nature, design and obligation. (Examination same as upon the Bible in the first year.)



2. It shall also elect, by ballot, one or more Editors for its Periodicals, a Book Agent, and the Corresponding Secretaries for the Missionary, Educational and Church Extension Boards.

3. The above-named officers shall report to and be amenable to their several Boards, during the interim of the meetings of the General Conference, according to the Constitutions governing each Board, respectively, but they shall ultimately be amenable and report to the General Conference.

4. It shall be the duty of the Editor, Book Agent, General Agent of the College, and Corresponding Secretaries of the above named Boards, together with at least two other members, chosen from each of the Boards elected by the General Conference to meet annually, in the month of July, or oftener, if necessary, for the purpose of mutual counsel and co-operation, in carrying forward the work confided to their management. The President of the preceding General Conference shall also be a member of this meeting, ex-officio, and shall preside over its deliberations.

5. It shall be the duty of all the Boards to report to this annual meeting the condition of the work under their care. This meeting shall also publish a condensed annual report of each of the Boards, in one volume, for general distribution, the expenses of which shall be borne mutually by the several Boards.

6. It shall also arrange for the proper representation of all the general interests to the respective Conferences at their annual meetings, giving all necessary information in regard to the work of each Board, respectively.

7. It shall be the duty of the respective Boards to see that the several Agents and Secretaries perform their official duties creditably, and shall have power to remove any Agent or Secretary for incompetency or neglect of duty, and fill all vacancies created during the interim of the General Conference.

A paper relating to Church meetings. The committee recommend that the title of section 4, page 38, be changed so as to read, "Church and Leaders' Meetings," and an additional paragraph to be inserted immediately after the title, as paragraph 1, as follows: It is recommended that in Circuits, stated meetings of the Church be held quarterly or oftener, at which the reports of Leaders, Stewards, Trustees and Sunday School Superintendents may be received, and such business transacted as the interests of the Society may require.

A paper relating to ministers serving within the bounds of sister Conferences. The committee recommend the adoption of the following paragraph, to be known as paragraph 8, and its insertion immediately after paragraph 7, page 45: No member of any Annual Conference shall be at liberty to serve any charge within the bounds of a sister Conference without obtaining the consent of the Conference within whose bounds the service is performed, or of its President, during the interim of Conference; provided that he shall be responsible to the Conference within whose bounds he labors, for the faithful performance of his official duties.

Page 49, Sec. III, item 23, after the sentence, "Number received during the year," amend, by inserting: "Number deceased,

## DOCUMENT 11

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NON-OFFICIAL BODIES

The Committee on Nominations respectfully reports that the following papers submitted to me have been examined, to wit: Two papers, each relating to the appointment of a missionary to the Annual Conference. The Committee recommends with the words: "A Committee of Pastoral Relations." At page 51, page 51, the following is inserted: "A Missionary Committee." A resolution to read, a resolution submitted, in substance as follows: "Resolved, That at Session 3.

1. The first of these is the fact that the Government has not yet decided whether or not it will accept the offer of the United States to purchase the rights in the patent for the atomic bomb. This decision is of great importance, for if the Government does not accept the offer, the United States will be unable to use the atomic bomb in the war against Japan. This is a very serious situation, for the United States is the only country in the world which has the atomic bomb, and it is the only country which has the power to use it. If the Government does not accept the offer, the United States will be unable to use the atomic bomb in the war against Japan, and this will be a great disadvantage to the United States.

On the 1st of January 1951, the Committee will  
begin its work on the Commission's proposals. The  
Committee will be responsible for the preparation of  
the Commission's proposals for the Council of Ministers.  
The Committee will also be responsible for the preparation  
of the Commission's proposals for the Council of Ministers.

*[Faint, illegible text from bleed-through]*

SECRET

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60607  
U.S.A. AND CANADA  
LONDON, ENGLAND W.C.2  
AND NEW DELHI, INDIA



2. It shall also elect, by ballot, one or more Editors for its Periodicals, a Book Agent, and the Corresponding Secretaries for the Missionary, Educational and Church Extension Boards.

3. The above-named officers shall report to and be amenable to their several Boards, during the interim of the meetings of the General Conference, according to the Constitutions governing each Board, respectively, but they shall ultimately be amenable and report to the General Conference.

4. It shall be the duty of the Editor, Book Agent, General Agent of the College, and Corresponding Secretaries of the above named Boards, together with at least two other members, chosen from each of the Boards elected by the General Conference to meet annually, in the month of July, or oftener, if necessary, for the purpose of mutual counsel and co-operation, in carrying forward the work confided to their management. The President of the preceding General Conference shall also be a member of this meeting, ex-officio, and shall preside over its deliberations.

5. It shall be the duty of all the Boards to report to this annual meeting the condition of the work under their care. This meeting shall also publish a condensed annual report of each of the Boards, in one volume, for general distribution, the expenses of which shall be borne mutually by the several Boards.

6. It shall also arrange for the proper representation of all the general interests to the respective Conferences at their annual meetings, giving all necessary information in regard to the work of each Board, respectively.

7. It shall be the duty of the respective Boards to see that the several Agents and Secretaries perform their official duties creditably, and shall have power to remove any Agent or Secretary for incompetency or neglect of duty, and fill all vacancies created during the interim of the General Conference.

A paper relating to Church meetings. The committee recommend that the title of section 4, page 38, be changed so as to read, "Church and Leaders' Meetings," and an additional paragraph to be inserted immediately after the title, as paragraph 1, as follows: It is recommended that in Circuits, stated meetings of the Church be held quarterly or oftener, at which the reports of Leaders, Stewards, Trustees and Sunday School Superintendents may be received, and such business transacted as the interests of the Society may require.

A paper relating to ministers serving within the bounds of sister Conferences. The committee recommend the adoption of the following paragraph, to be known as paragraph 8, and its insertion immediately after paragraph 7, page 45: No member of any Annual Conference shall be at liberty to serve any charge within the bounds of a sister Conference without obtaining the consent of the Conference within whose bounds the service is performed, or of its President, during the interim of Conference; provided that he shall be responsible to the Conference within whose bounds he labors, for the faithful performance of his official duties.

Page 49, Sec. III, item 23, after the sentence, "Number received during the year," amend, by inserting: "Number deceased,

## DOCUMENT N.

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### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OFFICIAL BODIES.

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The Committee on Official Bodies respectfully report that the following papers, submitted to them, have been examined, to wit:

Two papers, each relating to the appointment of a Stationing Committee by the Annual Conference. The committee recommend that the words, "A Committee on Pastoral Relations," Art. 3, paragraph 28, page 51, be stricken out, and the following inserted: "A Stationing Committee"—the whole item to read, A Stationing Committee, if such shall be agreed upon, as per paragraph 16 of section 3.

A paper relating to a just and proper recognition of the General Conference Agents in the Annual Conferences. The committee recommend an additional paragraph, to be known as paragraph 5, and inserted immediately after paragraph 4, section 6, page 53, as follows: The Editor or Editors, Publishing Agent, College Agent and Corresponding Secretaries of the above-named Boards are, and they are hereby declared to be, ex-officio honorary members of the Annual Conferences; that they may officially visit, so far as the general interests which they represent, is concerned.

A paper relating to statistical reports. The committee would recommend the adoption of the amendments and resolutions, verbatim, the blank reports to be prepared by the Publishing Agent, as per accompanying blanks.

After a careful consideration of a paper relating to the General Conference Boards, the committee have unanimously agreed to recommend the withdrawal of section 6, page 53, and the adoption of the following:

#### GENERAL CONFERENCE BOARDS.

1. The General Conference, at its quadrennial sessions, shall elect, by ballot, the Trustees of Adrian College, the Publishing, Ministerial Education, Church Extension, Missionary and such other Boards as may come under its control, which Boards shall have full authority to adopt such measures as may be necessary to render them efficient in their several departments.



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## DOCUMENT O.

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### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OFFICIAL DUTIES.

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Your Committee on Official Duties would respectfully recommend the following changes in the Discipline :

Page 55, Sec. I. Additional duties of the President, to be added, provided a pastoral charge may employ or release the President from the pastorate in the interim of Conference.

We still further recommend, that item 8 of Sec. II, page 56, be amended as follows :

After the word practicable, insert, collections for such other general interests as the General Conference may authorize, and shall be held responsible for the same in the examination of his character ; then insert so as to read as follows :

Item 8. To present to the people of his charge the interests of the Board of Ministerial Education, and take up subscriptions for it at the most suitable time in each year, in all his congregations ; also yearly subscriptions for the Board of Missions, forwarding the same to the Treasurer of said Board as soon as practicable. Also, collections for the college, and such other general interests as the General Conference may authorize. And he shall be held responsible for the same in the examination of his character. Should any pastor neglect to take such collections, he shall be subject to reprimand, and for a second neglect he shall be left without an appointment by the Conference of which he is a member.

Your committee would also recommend the following changes in the financial plan of the Church :

Duties of Circuit and Station Stewards, page 61, Section VII, to read as follows ;

1. In Circuits, Missions and Stations, the stewards shall be elected in the last quarter of the Conference year, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, page 20.

2. As soon as possible after the rise of the Annual Conference, the stewards shall hold a financial meeting, to ascertain the pastor's salary, moving expenses, and house rent, if any, and the President's salary, if there be any, and apportion the same to the several classes, according to their ability to pay.

3. It shall be the duty of the stewards to report to their respective classes the amount of their apportionment, at the first meeting of the class, after the apportionment has been made.

4. It shall then be the duty of the class to appoint a committee of three to apportion the amount laid on the class to the several

number withdrawn, number removed, number discontinued, number of increase or decrease (as the case may be) in the membership during the year."

Also, after "Number of scholars," amend by inserting "Number of conversions."

RESOLUTION.—*Resolved*, That our Publisher be and he is hereby instructed to prepare, print, and keep constantly on hand, a stock of blanks for Church, Sabbath School and financial reports, to be procured annually by the Secretary of each Annual Conference, and by him furnished to each Pastor in his District at least three months prior to the meeting of Conference.



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DOCUMENT P.

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REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CENTENNIAL  
OFFERINGS.

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The Centennial Anniversary of an event unparalleled in history, occurs during the coming year. The birth of a nation of freemen, on the 4th of July, 1776, has given to the world a type of civilization and an example of human progress before unknown.

The Christian Church may justly claim the parentage of the illustrious offspring, because her golden chart mapped out the field of human equality and inalienable rights, producing, under God, the Tree of Liberty, and bringing into existence and upholding this grand nation of ours. The birth of Non-Episcopal Methodism, as it relates to our own ecclesiastical existence, dates back near half a century. And it is quite befitting that we plant some suitable memorial upon the line that marks this grand epoch in history, that shall creditably indicate our gratitude to God.

The grateful recognition of favors received, affords the best evidence of a truly deserving spirit; and no more acceptable return to God can be made for blessings enjoyed, than to use them considerately, and share them generously with those less favored. God gives to us that we may have something to impart to others, and thus be "workers together with Him."

The years of the past century have been crowned with loving mercies and bountiful benefactions from our kind Heavenly Father. And "what shall we render unto the Lord for all His benefits?"

Yielding to Him the affection of our hearts and the service of our lives, we can add nothing more acceptable to Him than to place in perpetual consecration, for the furtherance of His kingdom, the substance He has put under our control. God does not give to us that we may hoard, but impart. All nature abounds in lessons of practical liberality. The fact of usefulness comes from imparting, not from possessing. The treasures of light wrapt in the bosom of the golden king of day are valuable, because always going forth, in profusion of beauty and strength, upon ministries of good to others.

Mother earth is estimated to possess value in proportion as she yields her bounties to her needy children. The floating cloud-train, burdened with its gathered stores of fertilizing rain, is recognized as the minister of good, only as it drops its pearly treasures upon the thirsty land. The bursting fountain from the hill-

members of the same, according to their ability to pay, which shall report its action to the next meeting of the class, for its adoption; provided that in stations where there is more than one class, the financial committee shall be elected by a meeting of the whole church.

5. The stewards shall collect the above apportionment promptly, in quarterly installments, and pay the same to the pastor quarterly, or oftener, if necessary, and the President's salary at the time of his official visit; provided that in stations the apportionment may be raised weekly, upon the envelope plan.

6. The stewards shall keep a financial register, (to be obtained at our Book Room,) in which he shall enter all the names of the members and supporters of the Church, and in which he shall keep an exact record of all moneys raised for the support of the gospel, benevolent purposes, and the general and local interests of the Church.

7. It shall be the duty of the pastor to see that this financial plan is fully carried out.

In order that the above financial plan may be fully carried out in all of our charges, we recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That our Publishing Agent be and he is hereby instructed to have prepared, and constantly keep on hand, a supply of financial registers, paged, ruled and columned, like the one herewith submitted, to be furnished the stewards of the Church at as low a rate as possible.

We also recommend that the latter clause of item 2, page 62, relating to the duties of trustees, commencing with the words, "all moneys," be transferred to page 64, and constitute item 5 of Sec. IX of General Duties of Trustees, which will read as follows:

Item 5. All moneys on behalf of houses of worship, for building or repairing of such, or for current expenses consequent upon public services, shall be controlled by the Board of Trustees of such houses, subject to the direction of the members worshipping therein.

Item 5 of Sec. IX, as it now stands, to be item 6.

We also recommend that item 3 of Sec. XI, page 65, Means of Grace, be transferred to page 37, and be made item 15 of Judicial Regulations, with this addition, Provided that in stations these changes may be made by the official Board.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. M. LOWDEN,  
Chairman.



and Ministerial Education. And that each donor specify to which of these objects his offering shall be applied; in case he does not so specify, the Association shall apply it where deemed best.

7. The gross amount that we would recommend to raise is \$200,000. \$100,000 for endowment of Adrian College; \$25,000 for our Publishing Interests; \$25,000 for Ministerial Education; \$25,000 for Missionary Purposes, and \$25,000 for Church Extension. And that we endeavor to have it all secured by the 30th of December, 1876.

8. We recommend that the Secretaries of each of the Boards having in charge the aforementioned interests, be directed to prepare suitable books to be kept among the archives of the Methodist Church, in which shall be entered the names of all persons who may make any offering to these respective interests, between this and the 30th of December, 1876. The names, the amount, and the object of the offering to be furnished to the respective Secretaries, by those who secure them. The Secretaries furnishing suitable blanks therefor.

9. The funds secured in aid of the respective interests herein before mentioned, shall in no case be diverted to any other object whatever.

10. We recommend that our Editor and Publisher be made ex-officio members of this Association.

The following table will suggest the feasibility of raising the amount named. Let it be arranged into classes in the following manner:

1	Class.....	4 persons, each.....	\$10,000 00—	\$40,000 00
2	" .....	8 " .....	5,000 00—	40,000 00
3	" .....	10 " .....	2,000 00—	20,000 00
4	" .....	15 " .....	1,000 00—	15,000 00
5	" .....	20 " .....	500 00—	10,000 00
6	" .....	25 " .....	300 00—	7,500 00
7	" .....	30 " .....	200 00—	6,000 00
8	" .....	100 " .....	100 00—	10,000 00
9	" .....	200 " .....	50 00—	10,000 00
10	" .....	200 " .....	25 00—	5,000 00
11	" .....	500 " .....	10 00—	5,000 00
12	" .....	500 " .....	5 00—	2,500 00
13	" .....	30,000 " .....	1 00—	30,000 00
14	" .....	20,000 " .....	50—	10,000 00
				<hr/>
51,612 members.				\$211,000 00

The committee venture to suggest the following nominations:

For President, N. R. Swift.

Vice Presidents, New York Conference, J. J. Smith; New Jersey Conference, T. B. Applegett; Onondaga Conference, P. Swift; Genesee Conference, C. K. Akeley; Pittsburgh Conference, J. J. Gillespie; Muskingum Conference, J. B. Hamilton; Ohio Conference, C. S. Evans; Michigan Conference, Jared Warner; West Michigan Conference, Chester Underwood; Indiana Conference,

top, or mountain side, is full of blessings, because it does not absorb and hoard, but sends forth its silvery treasures to give life and health wherever it goes.

The Christian Church, which is the light of the world, is valuable only for what she imparts. However vast and precious may be her stores of grace and truth, if she gives forth nothing of them to the world, "what does she more than others?" The same is true of individuals in respect to their mental and moral powers, or their wealth. To amass wealth, and refuse to use it for good, is one of the forms of robbing God, and withholding from our fellow-men their rights. While a cheerful liberality is a perpetual worship. "The liberal deviseth liberal things, and by liberal things shall he stand."

We suggest that our people can in no way evidence their high appreciation of the blessings of civil and ecclesiastical liberty and prosperity, better than by consecrating to God, through the Church, an offering to be known as a

#### CENTENARY OFFERING,

for promoting the general interests of the Church. And we, therefore, respectfully recommend,

1. That an Association be formed to be known as "The Centenary Association of the Methodist Church."

The officers of the Association to consist of a President, one Vice President from each Annual Conference, a Secretary and Treasurer, and an Executive Board of five, located at Adrian, Michigan; the powers and duties of these officers to be such as usually appertain to such offices; with power to fill vacancies.

2. The Association shall appoint, through its Vice Presidents, auxiliary committees in each Annual Conference, to co-operate in carrying out the objects of the Association. Suitable subscription books shall be provided for the Annual Conference Committees, in which the name of each donor, with the amount donated, shall be kept within the bounds of each Annual Conference.

3. The Association shall be at liberty to use such means as they may deem best, for awakening an interest in all departments of our Church, in behalf of this important enterprise.

4. A correct account of all funds received by the Association, and for what object such means were donated, shall be kept by the Treasurer of the Association, and reported from time to time, as the Association may deem best.

5. It is recommended that each Annual Conference, at its next session, co-operate with its Vice President of this Association, in providing sub-committees upon each charge; and arrange with said sub-committee to see that each individual member and friend in said charge be solicited to contribute a Centennial offering in grateful commemoration of our National Independence, and our civil and ecclesiastical liberty.

6. We recommend that the fund hereby proposed to be raised, shall be in aid of the endowment of Adrian College, our Publishing Interests, our Missionary and Church Extension enterprise,



## DOCUMENT Q.

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### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FAITH AND PRACTICE.

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The Committee on Faith and Practice submit the following :

Seventh item, Sec. II, page 29, to read : "Uncharitable or unprofitable conversation, or indulgence in those worldly amusements which do not tend to the glory of God, and which cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus, such as card playing, dancing, and games of chance, and attending circuses and theatrical performances."

Page 31. Covenant. You do also join yourself to this Church and agree to submit to all its rules of government. To give, as God has given you ability, for the support of the Gospel and all the general interests of the Church ; to seek earnestly its peace and purity ; to walk, with all its members, in charity and faithfulness, in meekness and sobriety. Do you thus freely and solemnly devote yourselves to the service of the Lord ?

#### ARTICLES OF RELIGION.

Page 22, Article 2. The Son of God, who is the Word of the Father, the very and Eternal God, and one with the Father, took man's nature in the womb of the Blessed Virgin, so that two whole and perfect natures—that is to say, the Godhead and manhood—were joined together in one person, whereof is one Christ, very God and very man, who, in his manhood, truly suffered, was crucified, dead and buried, to make an atonement for the sins of the whole world, and reconcile us to God.

ART. 4. Amendment to read as follows :

#### OF THE HOLY GHOST.

The Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son, is one with the Father and the Son in majesty and glory, and is very and Eternal God.

Insert as Art. 11 :

#### OF WORKS OF SUPEREROGATION.

Voluntary works, besides, over and above God's commandments, which are called works of supererogation, cannot be taught without arrogancy and impiety ; for by them men do declare that they do not only render unto God as much as they are bound to

J. J. Amos; North Illinois Conference, W. H. Jordan; South Illinois Conference, S. M. Gentry; Minnesota Conference, S. Jones; Nebraska Conference, D. Kinney; Kansas Conference, Daniel Young; North Carolina Conference, S. A. Cecil; Kentucky Conference, J. Locey; Missouri Conference, W. A. Fogle; North Missouri Conference, L. C. Pace; Iowa Conference, Wm. Remsburgh; North Iowa Conference, J. A. Bolton; North Indiana Conference, J. H. Luse; West North Carolina Conference, W. M. Kerr; Oregon Conference, B. N. Longsworth.

Secretary, A. H. Lowrie.

Treasurer, G. B. McElroy.

Executive Board, J. S. Thrap, J. B. Walker, E. A. Wheat, I. W. McKeever, O. F. Howard.

E. A. WHEAT,  
*Chairman.*



as worthily receive the same, they have a wholesome effect or operation, but they that receive them unworthily, purchase to themselves condemnation, as St. Paul saith. 1 Cor., xi : 29.

Art. 14 changed to Art. 18 :

#### OF BAPTISM.

Art. 15 changed to Art. 19, and amended, to read as follows :

#### OF THE LORD'S SUPPER.

The Supper of the Lord is a visible sign of the Atonement made by our Lord Jesus Christ, by his agony and blood, in which we profess our faith in Him, as our only and all-sufficient Saviour, and show forth His death till He come. Transubstantiation, or the change of the substance of bread and wine in the Supper of our Lord, cannot be proved by Holy Writ, but is repugnant to the plain words of Scripture, overthroweth the nature of a sacrament, and hath given occasion to many superstitions.

Insert as Art. 20 :

#### OF BOTH KINDS.

The cup of the Lord is not to be denied to the laity; for both the parts of the Lord's Supper, by Christ's ordinance and commandment, ought to be administered to all Christians alike.

Art. 16 changed to Art. 21 :

#### OF THE ONE OBLATION OF CHRIST.

Insert as Art. 22 :

#### OF THE MARRIAGE OF MINISTERS.

The ministers of Christ are not commanded by God's law either to avow the estate of single life, or to abstain from marriage; therefore, it is lawful for them, as for all other Christians, to marry at their own discretion, as they shall judge the same to serve best to godliness.

Art. 17 changed to Art. 23 :

#### OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD.

Art. 18 changed to Art. 24 :

#### OF THE GENERAL JUDGMENT.

Art. 19 changed to Art. 25 :

#### OF RELATIVE DUTIES.

do, but that they do more for his sake than of bounden duty is required; whereas, Christ saith plainly, "When ye have done all that is commanded you, say we are unprofitable servants."

Art. 11 changed to Art. 12:

#### OF SIN AFTER JUSTIFICATION.

Art. 12 changed to Art. 13.

#### SANCTIFICATION.

Insert as Art. 14:

#### OF THE CHURCH.

The visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men, in which the pure word of God is preached, and the Sacraments duly administered, according to Christ's ordinance, in all those things that of necessity are requisite to the same.

Insert as Art 15:

#### OF PURGATORY.

The Romish doctrine concerning purgatory, pardon, worshiping and adoration, as well of images as of relics, and also invocations of Saints, is a fond thing, vainly invented, and grounded upon no warrant of Scripture, but repugnant to the word of God.

Insert as Art. 16:

#### OF TONGUES.

It is a thing plainly repugnant to the word of God, and the custom of the Primitive Church, to have public prayer in the Church, or to minister the Sacraments, in a tongue not understood by the people.

#### OF THE SACRAMENTS.

Art. 13, page 25, changed to Art. 17, and amended, to read:

Sacraments, ordained of Christ, are visible signs of the Covenant of Grace and of Christian men's profession, by which God doth work invisibly in them that believe, and doth not only quicken but also strengthen and confirm their faith in Him. There are two Sacraments ordained of Christ our Lord in the Gospel, i. e. Baptism and the Lord's Supper. These five, called by Roman Catholics, Sacraments, that is to say, Confirmation, Penance, Orders, Matrimony, and Extreme Unction, are not to be counted for Sacraments of the Gospel, being such as have partly grown out of the corrupt following of the Apostles, and partly are states of life allowed in the Scriptures, but yet have not the like nature of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, because they are not signs of a covenant relation with God. The Sacraments were not ordained of Christ to be gazed upon, or to be carried about, but that we should duly use them, and in such only



DOCUMENT R.

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REPORT ON JOURNALS AND STATISTICS.

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Your Committee regrets the necessity of reporting the fact, that but ten Conferences of the twenty-five in the Church have presented Annual Conference journals, and only about two-thirds have furnished Annual Conference statistics. We, with pleasure, make known that the Conference journals presented, are generally in good order, and that the business of the several Conferences therein recorded is found in legible and intelligent form.

In view of the imperfection of our present statistical report, resultant from the want of proper statistics from the Annual Conferences, we recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of each Annual Conference be requested to furnish full statistics of his Conference to the committee who may be appointed by this body to revise the Discipline. Said statistics to be furnished not later than the 1st of July, 1875.

Your committee, having carefully investigated the case of Rev. L. S. Bartlett, as an appellant from an action of the South Illinois Conference, report the following three actions, found recorded in the journal of said Conference, viz. :

1st, page 52. " On motion, L. S. Bartlett was erased from the roll."

2d, page 83. " Your Committee on Unfinished Business report, that we find the names of W. Tull and L. S. Bartlett dropped from Conference, and assign for such action, W. Tull irregularly withdrawn and united with the M. E. Church; L. S. Bartlett failed to attend, or report himself by letter, to the Conference for two years."

3d, page 88. " L. S. Bartlett gave written notice of his appeal to the General Conference."

In view of the above recited record, together with all we have learned from oral statements, your committee report,

1st. That the action of the South Illinois Conference in the case is in accordance with the Discipline of the Methodist Church, page 50, paragraph 25.

2d. That this General Conference has no jurisdiction in the case, and therefore we recommend that the appeal be respectfully returned to the appellant. All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. L. SIMPSON,  
Chairman.

Art. 20 changed to Art. 26 :

OF RULERS OF THE U. S. OF AMERICA.

Art. 21 changed to Art. 27 :

OF RITES AND CEREMONIES OF CHURCHES.

Insert as Art. 28 :

OF CHRISTIAN MEN'S GOODS.

The riches and goods of Christians are not common, as touching the right, title and possession of the same, as some do falsely boast. Notwithstanding, every man ought of such things as he possesseth, liberally to give alms to the poor, according to his ability.

Insert as Art. 29 :

OF A CHRISTIAN MAN'S OATH.

As we confess that vain and rash swearing is forbidden all men, by our Lord Jesus Christ and James his Apostle, so we judge that the Christian religion doth not prohibit, but that a man may swear or affirm, when the magistrate requireth, in a cause of faith and charity, so it be done according to the prophet's teaching, in justice, judgment and truth.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. HUDDLESTON,  
*Chairman.*



## DOCUMENT S.

### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MORAL REFORMS.

WHEREAS, Christians are to be witnesses for Christ; to let their light shine; and in no wise to suffer sin upon their neighbor without rebuking him; therefore, we deem it our imperative duty, as followers of the pure and holy Saviour, to bear our testimony against the following evils, in manner and form, to wit:

1. On the subject of Intemperance. We believe Intemperance to be the great crying sin of this nation, the deadly Upas tree of evil, which is spreading its poisonous influences, and producing the most lamentable results of degradation, misery and death. Intemperance withers the beauty of youth and dishonors the gray hairs of age; it blights the intellect; sears and stupifies the conscience; impairs the health; ruins the character; transforms the kind father into the destroyer of the family; the loving, tender mother into worse than an irrational brute; blasts the hopes and health of its youthful votaries; breaks the hearts of trusting wives; beggars their innocent children, and brings down the gray hairs of fond and pious parents in sorrow to the grave. This hydra-headed monster, Intemperance, fills our alms-houses with paupers; crowds our prisons with criminals; supplies the scaffold with victims for execution; burdens the nation with taxation; wrecks the noble structure made in the image of God; ruins his body and character in this life, and his immortal soul in the world that is to come, for "No drunkard can inherit the kingdom of God." In view, therefore, of the great and indescribable evils of Intemperance, and the fact that all efforts hitherto made even to regulate this great crying sin in our nation, by way of licensing the liquor traffic, have proved abortive; therefore,

*Resolved*, 1. That we do most earnestly recommend the entire legal prohibition of the traffic in all intoxicating liquors as a beverage, as the object of law should be to prevent and punish, rather than to regulate, evil and crime, as the licensing system contemplates.

*Resolved*, 2. That we not only regard the manufacture, sale, or the using of intoxicating drinks as beverage morally wrong, but earnestly protest against our members giving any countenance to the liquor traffic, by signing petitions for or voting for licenses, by renting property for such purposes, or in any way aiding or abetting the nefarious business of rum-making and selling. We hold that all persons thus acting in the Methodist Church, are guilty of unchristian conduct, and are subject to disciplinary action, according to Section II, of Christian Duties, as recorded on page 28 of Discipline.

*Resolved*, 3. That we recognize and duly appreciate the efforts of the pious and heroic women as helpers in this good and great

## STATISTICS OF THE METHODIST CHURCH.

ANNUAL CONFERENCES.	Itinerant Min- isters and Preachers.	Unstationed Ministers and Preachers.	Members.	Probationers.	Church Edifices.	Parsonages.	Value of Church Property.
N. York & Pa..	34	17	2,521	122	34	8	\$145,400
New Jersey....	24	10	1,561	113	31	6	91,950
Onondaga.....	54	...	2,321	136	23	13	67,400
Genesee.....	22	...	854	51	9½	4	36,800
Pittsburgh.....	56	52	6,673	147	94	23	613,500
E. N. Carolina,	19	...	800	100	8	...	2,000
W. N. Carolina,	27	...	997	58	8	...	2,000
Kentucky.....	10	...	1,000	.....	3	...	1,500
Muskingum.....	68	48	8,670	98	150	15	236,075
Ohio.....	45	51	6,150	201	93½	21	175,165
Michigan.....	54	102	2,211	79	19	18	58,800
W. Michigan...	45	25	2,000	91	14½	9	25,500
Indiana.....	30	17	2,748	150	35	3	43,500
N. Indiana.....	22	20	1,604	211	23	5	30,600
N. Ill. & Wis...	45	25	2,150	85	41	17	112,000
S. Illinois.....	34	...	2,229	.....	25½	4	24,100
Iowa.....	44	35	3,038	77	20	12	42,100
N. Iowa.....	21	6	805	3	9	5	19,150
Minnesota.....	15	3	400	13	2	...	3,300
Nebraska.....	11	5	400	.....	8	...	15,000
Missouri.....	43	26	2,100	5	8	5	5,000
N. Missouri....	28	32	1,000	22	4	2	7,300
Kansas.....	15	30	1,018	21	2	...	2,500
Oregon.....	9	3	150	.....	2	1	6,500
Total.....	775	507	53,400	1,783	667	171	\$1,767,140

California, Boston and Tennessee, no report.

Total number of members, including probationers, 55,183. The neglect of many Conferences to report their statistics, compelled us to resort to earlier figures, or omit altogether. The aggregates are doubtless much less than they should be.

J. L. SIMPSON,  
*Chairman.*



## DOCUMENT T.

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### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CHURCH PROPERTY.

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Your committee, to whom was referred the matter of the better securing of our Church property, beg leave to report: We propose to make the following change on page 64, Sec. IX, item 5, of Discipline, to be so changed as to read, "In case any church or society shall have become extinct, by deaths or removals, or otherwise, the church property, if any, shall vest in the Quarterly Conference of the Circuit, Station or Mission within whose jurisdiction such property is located. Should there be no Quarterly Conference, the right to the control of said property shall vest in the Annual Conference within whose bounds it is located. Said property to be disposed of by an agent appointed for that purpose by the Quarterly or Annual Conference, as the one or the other may have acquired the right to control said property. When sales are made by the agents thus appointed, the proceeds thereof shall be used only for the purpose of liquidating such claims as may have accrued in the purchase, erection, repairs or furnishing of the houses of worship or parsonages thus sold, or in the purchase, erection, repairs or furnishing of other houses of worship or parsonages for the use of the Methodist Church.

No house of worship, parsonage, or other property of the Church, shall be subject to sale for any debt of any society or circuit other than such debts as are specified in the above item, nor shall any donation or subscription be diverted from the purpose for which said donation or subscription was made.

Page 12, Constitution, Article 3, Sec. II, we propose to have amended in the lawful way as follows: Strike out "independent of all associated relations or bodies," and insert "subject only to such rules and regulations as are essential to the preservation of our associated relations in the Quarterly, Annual and General Conferences."

R. BURNS,

*Chairman.*



cause, who, regardless of the sneers and jeers of the liquor-sellers, have gone from saloon to saloon, and in the name of Christ and earnest, solemn prayer, besought the vendors of poison and ruin to cease their work of destruction, in view of saving their fellow-beings from moral and spiritual death.

*Resolved*, 4. That in order to save the young and rising generation, and educate and elevate a healthy temperance sentiment in our land, we recommend the organization of temperance societies in all our Sabbath Schools and churches.

*Resolved*, 5. That in order to discountenance the use of fermented and intoxicating liquors, we earnestly recommend to all our churches the use of *unfermented* wine in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

*Resolved*, 6. That, whereas, *tobacco* is a powerful narcotic, and therefore deleterious to the human system, and being expensive, is injurious to our finances, and being exceeding filthy in its use, is inconsistent with that holiness of heart and purity of life which is so positively enjoined by the Word of God; we therefore believe that it is not only the duty of all Christians to entirely abstain, but to use all their influence and powers to discountenance and repress the use of this filthy narcotic in the Church and in the world.

*Resolved*, 7. Whereas, dancing for amusement, playing at games of chance, attending theaters, horse races, circuses, dancing parties, or patronizing dancing schools, or church lotteries, or the taking of such other amusements as are of questionable moral tendency, are all wrong, and contrary to those express commands of the Holy Scriptures, which require us to be separate from sinners, to be a peculiar people, zealous of good works, and not conformed to the world; and therefore should not be countenanced or practiced by the followers of Christ.

*Resolved*, 8. That inasmuch as we believe education to be a Christian duty, enjoined upon the Church by the commission to "teach all nations," and that our Common Schools, with the Bible retained in them as their chart and compass, an indispensable safeguard to the perpetuation of our republican institutions; therefore, we believe it to be the duty of every Christian and patriot to resist every effort to destroy our Common School system, and to co-operate, in every proper way, to render them more efficient and permanent in the future.

*Resolved*, 9. As we are to "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy," we do most deeply regret and deplore a growing tendency among some of the citizens of this nation to lower the sanctity, and entirely disregard the sacredness of the holy Sabbath, by turning it into a day of amusement and dissipation; we therefore urge upon all the followers of Christ the most strict observance of the "Lord's day," as promotive of their own spiritual and temporal good, as well as their loyalty and obedience to the fourth commandment.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. H. COLHOUER,

*Chairman.*